IRISES

The Bulletin of the American Iris Society

FALL 2015

2015 Award Winners!

2015 Dykes Medal Winner 'Gypsy Lord ' (Keith Keppel 2006, TB)

Volume 96, No. 4

www.irises.org

2015 AIS Award Winners Image Gallery

John C. Wister Medal Winner
'Money In Your Pocket' (Paul Black 2007)
Photo courtesy J. Graham

John C. Wister Medal Winner
'Snapshot' (Thomas Johnson 2007)
Photo courtesy Thomas Johnson

John C. Wister Medal Winner
'Temporal Anomaly' (Richard Tasco 2007)
Photo courtesy Richard Tasco

Knowlton Medal Winner
'Niche' (Joseph Ghio 2006)
Photo courtesy Riley Probst

2015 AIS Award Winners Image Gallery

Hans and Jacob Sass Medal Winner
'Man's Best Friend' (Paul Black 2008)
Photo courtesy Paul Black

Williamson-White Medal Winner
'Hot News' (Stephanie Markham 2009)
Photo courtesy Stephanie Markham

Cook-Douglas Medal Winner (tie)
'Maui Sunrise' (J. T. Aitken 2008)
Photo courtesy J. T. Aitken

Cook-Douglas Medal Winner (tie)
'Zooboomafoo' (Paul Black 2007)
Photo courtesy David Schmeider

The American Iris Society is a non-profit institution incorporated February 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the Iris.

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Omissions and Errata

The following errors appeared in the Summer 2015 *Bulletin*:

Page 21: 'Rubicon' was tied for first runner-up, not second runner-up.

Page 37, second column: "May 25, our garden tour continued at the Kevin Vaughn Garden," not "... Wildwood Gardens (Will Plotner)."

AIS Membership Information

(see page 61 for section membership information)

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Doug Kanarowski TB seedling 0409,
first runner-up for Zurbrigg-Mahan Seedling Cup
by Jim Morris (see page 12)

In Memoriam—On behalf of The American Iris Society, we extend our condolences and respects to the families and friends of these deceased iris lovers:

Gordon Green—Denison TX
J D Spence—Yukon OK
Gloria Huddleston—Whitney TX
Stephen Stevens—Crystal City MO
James R Welch—Concord NH
David Cadd—Healdsburg CA
Joanne Derr—Vancouver WA
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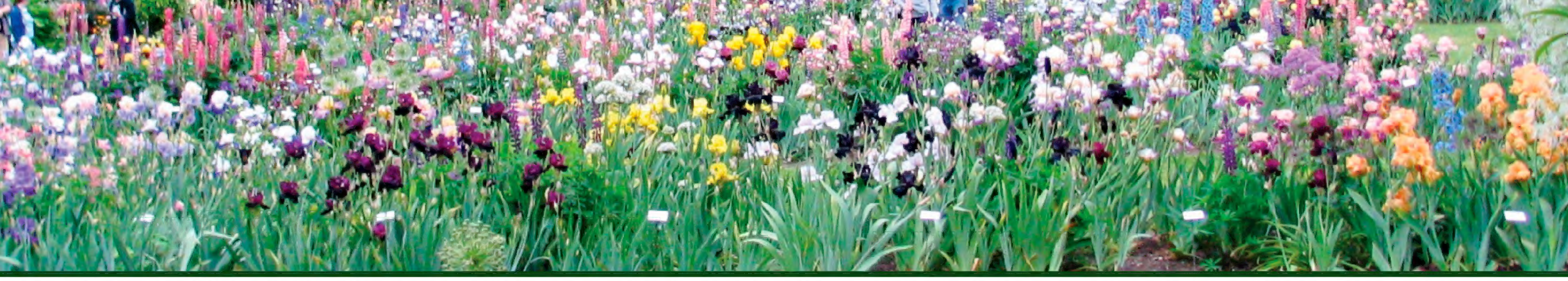
Mrs Melvin Bausch—Mequon WI
Leigh M Ellis—Edmond OK
Cynthia A Smith—Parma OH



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Volume 96, No. 4, Series No. 377, Fall 2015

Contents

2015 AIS Awards

Front Cover: 2015 Dykes Medal Winner 'Gypsy Lord ' (Keith Keppel 2006, TB) by Jim Morris

Back Cover: 2015 Fred and Barbara Walther Cup 'Desert Snow' (Paul Black 2013, AB) by Debbie Hughes

2 Image Gallery I
28 List of winners
54 Image Gallery II

Irisarians

7 Editor's Message
8 Donations
9 President's Message
6 Bulletin Board
10 Section Happenings
By Gary White
11 Youth Views
By Cheryl Deaton
12 Portland 2015—Another View
By Jim Morris
14 Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden
By Stephanie Markham
17 Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm
By Ginny Spoon
20 Miller's Manor
By Bonnie Nichols
22 Mid-America Garden
By Chuck Bunnell
24 Kevin Vaughn Garden
By Stephanie Markham
27 The Oregon Garden
By Kate Brewett
50 Remembering Friends
By Jim Morris
51 2016 AIS Spring Convention News

Culture

36 The Long Road To a New Iris in India, part 2
By Aaron Floden & James Waddick

For Reference

4 Officers
40 Shopping Section
45 Advertising Rates
46 AIS Storefront
48 Directory (includes committees, RVPs and sections)
49 Section Membership Rates
53 Calendar

Index of Advertisers

11 Louisiana Iris Farms, L.L.C.

JANE MILLIMAN, NEW YORK

Dear Members of AIS,

Thank you very much for giving me the chance to guest-edit this issue of *IRISES*. I've been in the garden publishing business my entire adult life, but I had no idea what a vast world of irises is out there before taking on this assignment. It's a truly fascinating world, and your pictures—incredible.

Of course, everyone likes to root for the home team, so I was excited to read about a Lousiana iris named after Rochester's very own Edna Claunch. Edna is well-known in these parts for being an impassioned advocate of the Lousiana iris, and was instrumental in establishing a new LA garden in Rochester's Highland Park a few years back. I have a feeling that the Australian LA breeder Heather Pryor may have visited, because a few of her award winners this year are named for Rochester icons: 'Rochester Lilac', 'Frederick Douglass', and Renée Fleming (yes, we can claim her).

I'd like to thank Jim Morris and John Jones for being patient with me during the layout process, and to everyone who helpfully sourced photos at the last minute. It was a lot of fun. I'd also like to thank the summer guest editor Jaime Cloud for her help and for lining everything up to leave me with an excellent jumping off point for this issue.

Many congratulations to all of the winners.

'Royston Rubies' (Adam Cordes, TB seedling), Zurbrigg-Mahan Cup Winner, photo by Jim Morris. See page 12 article.

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Deadlines for receiving materials are February 15 (Spring Issue), May 15 (Summer Issue), August 15 (Fall Issue), and November 15 (Winter Issue). All images must be submitted electronically in a minimum 300 dpi resolution for publication. Failure to provide quality images at time of submission may result in those images not being published. Manuscripts should be submitted via email in MS Word format without excess formatting and nonstandard fonts. The editor reserves the right to schedule submissions for the appropriate issue regardless of the date of submission.

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June 1–August 31, 2015

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The AIS
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- 100th ANNIV = AIS 100th Anniversary Fund
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JIM MORRIS, MISSOURI

In this issue I welcome Jane Milliman of Victor, New York as our guest editor. She is an experienced writer and editor who has been publisher of *Upstate Gardener's Journal* for twenty years. She also writes a gardening column for the Rochester, NY *Democrat and Chronicle* newspaper.

My stewardship of the American Iris Society as president ends in November 2015 and new officers will be elected at the fall meeting in Omaha, Nebraska. As I look back at my three years in office I am reminded of all the good people who served with me and helped me in office as we saw many changes in this pan-digital world in which we live. My heartfelt thanks to them all.

Change is inevitable and necessary as we move forward. Growing demand by consumers for more detailed product information may result soon in the end of the simple bar codes which I am told are scanned five billion times a day presently. The current bar codes have been with us just since 1974, but demand for greater transparency about products, recalls, and counterfeits may force smart phone apps and system upheavals. I just received my *National Geographic* magazine where I found an announcement that this non-profit publication, around since its founding in 1888, will shift to for-profit status under a new partnership with 21st Century Fox, the entertainment company.

In our iris world there is much that needs doing to continue our modernization. If we are to attract and retain our milleniums we must do better to provide quicker and more current information. One of the questions often asked of me is why can't we speed up the iris naming and registration process? And once the names are vetted through our database why can't we immediately electronically post them to our hybridizers and our encyclopedia instead of waiting until the printed Registration & Introduction booklets are issued six months or more later? These are valid questions deserving attention and discussion/action by our incoming officers and board of directors.

It isn't too early to start planning for our iris convention for 2016. Go to the News link on our AIS website www.irises.org and follow the Convention link to follow planning for the three tour gardens: Presby Memorial Iris Gardens in Montclair, NJ; Glenara Gardens in Palmerton, PA; and the George Hildenbrant Garden in Slatington, PA. Flying into Newark is easy as my oldest grandson does so often going to and from St. Louis and West Point, NY where he is a cadet. The Newark Airport Marriott Hotel has a free courtesy shuttle. Over 1,800 guest plants have been planted in the three gardens. These were sent in by 99 hybridizers and initial bloom this spring was good. A most interesting optional tour is also scheduled to the U.S. Independence National Historic Park (think Liberty Bell) and the Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia. The convention discounted rate of $299 is available before February 1, 2016. There are incremental increases after that date.

Thanks to those of you who responded to my request in the Winter 2015 *Bulletin* for iris seeds to be sent to New Zealand. All arrived safely except one lot. Lynnette Stockley, with assistance from Lesley Cox, is handling the 2015 NZIS Seed Pool, so vital to a country that has banned plant importation. Future donators should seek the advice of old hand exporters such as Jim Waddick (SIGNA Seed Exchange) and Keith Keppel to ensure compliance with the strict New Zealand import requirements.

When one has been in AIS for a long time one sees people come and go. Occasionally someone disappears for a few years because of family or professional situations and then reappears! I was so pleased to hear of such an occurrence this spring at the Prescott Area Iris Society show in Region 15, Arizona. Former proprietor with husband Ray and Bob Brooks of Cordon Bleu Farms in San Marcos, California, Janice Chesnik, ran a kaleidoscope business for years and resided in northern Georgia before moving to Cottonwood, AZ. I have fond memories of the orange grove and almost seven-foot tall spurias growing at Cordon Bleu. Welcome back Janice.

Best wishes to all as we approach the holidays.

Before we can set out on the road to success, we have to know where we are going, and before we can know that we must determine where we have been in the past.

--John F. Kennedy

GARY WHITE, AIS SECTION AND COOPERATING SOCIETY LIAISON, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

This issue of Section Happenings is my last as the AIS Section and Cooperating Society Liaison. I thank the officers and representatives of the various sections and cooperating societies for their help, interest, and contributions of information regarding their societies. I believe these 13 societies are the most diverse group of representatives of any plant group anywhere. Your membership and activities in these societies will ensure their continuing presence.

HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY

HIPS has an exciting new program underway: the Guardian Gardens Network. In this program, iris gardeners are working to systematically identify, grow, and share rare historic irises before they disappear. Any HIPS member is welcome to join! Irises are identified as "rare" based on their availability from commercial sources, their presence in public iris collections (such as a botanic garden), and the number of private gardeners who report having them. Private garden data is collected from HIPS members, who are encouraged to submit the lists of irises they are growing to our Databank Chair. So far we have identified over 1500 irises that qualify as GG irises.

We know there are irises being grown out there that we are not aware of. Some of the irises we currently consider to be rare may actually be well-represented, but unless irisarians submit their lists, we won't know. We need more data. If you are not currently a HIPS member, we hope you will join and send in a list of irises in your garden. We especially need Guardian Gardens members who are interested in preserving irises from the 1960s through 1990. Believe it or not, many irises from this period are already in danger of being lost.

E-memberships are only $10 per year, and you can sign up on our website at www.historiciris.org. (Our new website should be online by the end of September.) Please consider joining us as we work to save these beautiful treasures. For more information, contact Doug Paschall, the program administrator, at gg@historiciris.org.

NOVELTY IRIS SOCIETY

The Novelty Iris Society (NIS) is just six months old as a full Section of the American Iris Society, and its third newsletter arrived in our email in-boxes in September. Of note are two articles by hybridizers discussing their hybridizing and interest in novelty irises. "Let's Have Fun" by Tom Burseen, explores possible reasons novelty irises are so popular. One of those reasons is that novelty irises are FUN, and he even suggests that the acceptance of this new society by the AIS might "indicate that the AIS is no longer just all about awards. Maybe, just maybe the AIS wants to have fun also?!?" The second article by Jim Hedgecock, in "My Life with Space Age Irises" discusses his hybridizing efforts using space age irises, and notes that as time progressed, he has "seen the space age irises gain popularity tenfold." Both are interesting reads in this colorful, attractive newsletter.

SOCIETY FOR LOUISIANA IRISES

The 2016 SLI annual national convention will be held in Shreveport, LA, from April 20th through 24th. The 2017 SLI convention will be held in Dallas, TX, dates to be determined. The 2018 SLI convention will be held in New Orleans, LA, immediately following the AIS convention in New Orleans.

The SLI web site has been updated and continues to improve. E-membership is in the works and will be offered soon. SLI now has a Paypal account and can accept most credit cards for membership renewals and storefront purchases. Contact the treasurer, Ron Killingsworth (retmiagt@gmail.com), for more information.

SOCIETY FOR PACIFIC COAST NATIVE IRISES

This winter SPCNI is trying a new seed distribution method, partnering with Master Gardeners. A western Washington program asked for PCI seeds to sell in packets, labeled, with germination and growing instructions, and a photo for each variety. They will sell these at a regional meeting, and will make a donation to SPCNI for the seeds; our web address will be in the information on the packets. This will happen after our seed exchange, which will be held in its customary fashion. There is a growing interest in drought tolerant species, following this year's weather in the Far West, when gardeners from Oregon to Alaska saw their gardens dry up in early spring instead of late summer; Californian gardens are already dry from late winter into mid to late fall. SPCNI is interested, as this gets our organization directly to hundreds of potential members in an area where PCIs can easily be grown, in western Washington. If this is successful, SPCNI will consider a similar partnership with other Master Gardener groups in appropriate areas in coming years.

SOCIETY FOR SIBERIAN IRISES

A Siberian iris was the first runner-up to the Dykes Medal, after judges' voting for iris awards this year. 'Swans In Flight' (Hollingworth 2006) may be the closest siberian iris to date to winning the Dykes Medal.

CHERYL DEATON, CALIFORNIA

NOMINATIONS NEEDED

I am sure you recognize this AIS youth member. They may be a little shy at first, but get them talking about irises and they will start showing their enthusiasm. They grow irises in their own part of the family garden and they get so excited when they get one or two new ones! They may have started hybridizing but don't have anything they think is good enough to introduce yet. At club meetings they help with refreshments and setting up chairs – they may even be part of a committee. When the club holds a sale, they can be counted on to help the buying public and they cheerfully talk about growth habits, colors and the benefits of joining the American Iris Society. If they enter one of the club shows you can tell how proud they are when they win ribbons. They volunteer as clerks so they can learn what the judges look for in an iris on the show bench, which helps them when they decided to enter the judges' training program. If their school year permits, they attend the regional and national tours to learn what is new and interesting in the iris world. You might see them busily photographing irises in the gardens. During the winter they pour over iris catalogs, making 'wish lists' that are longer than most kids Christmas lists! These young irisarians are the perfect candidates for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement (CCMAYA). If you have noticed one of these AIS Youth members, and you are an adult AIS member, please nominate them for this national award. Nominations must be received no later than January 31, 2016, and either mailed or sent via email as an attachment to Cheryl Deaton, AIS Youth Chair, 27218 Walnut Springs Avenue, Canyon Country, CA 91351-3314, or region15kids@hotmail.com. Limit your nomination letter to 500 words please. Don't delay – a deserving AIS Youth member needs your support.

DUES

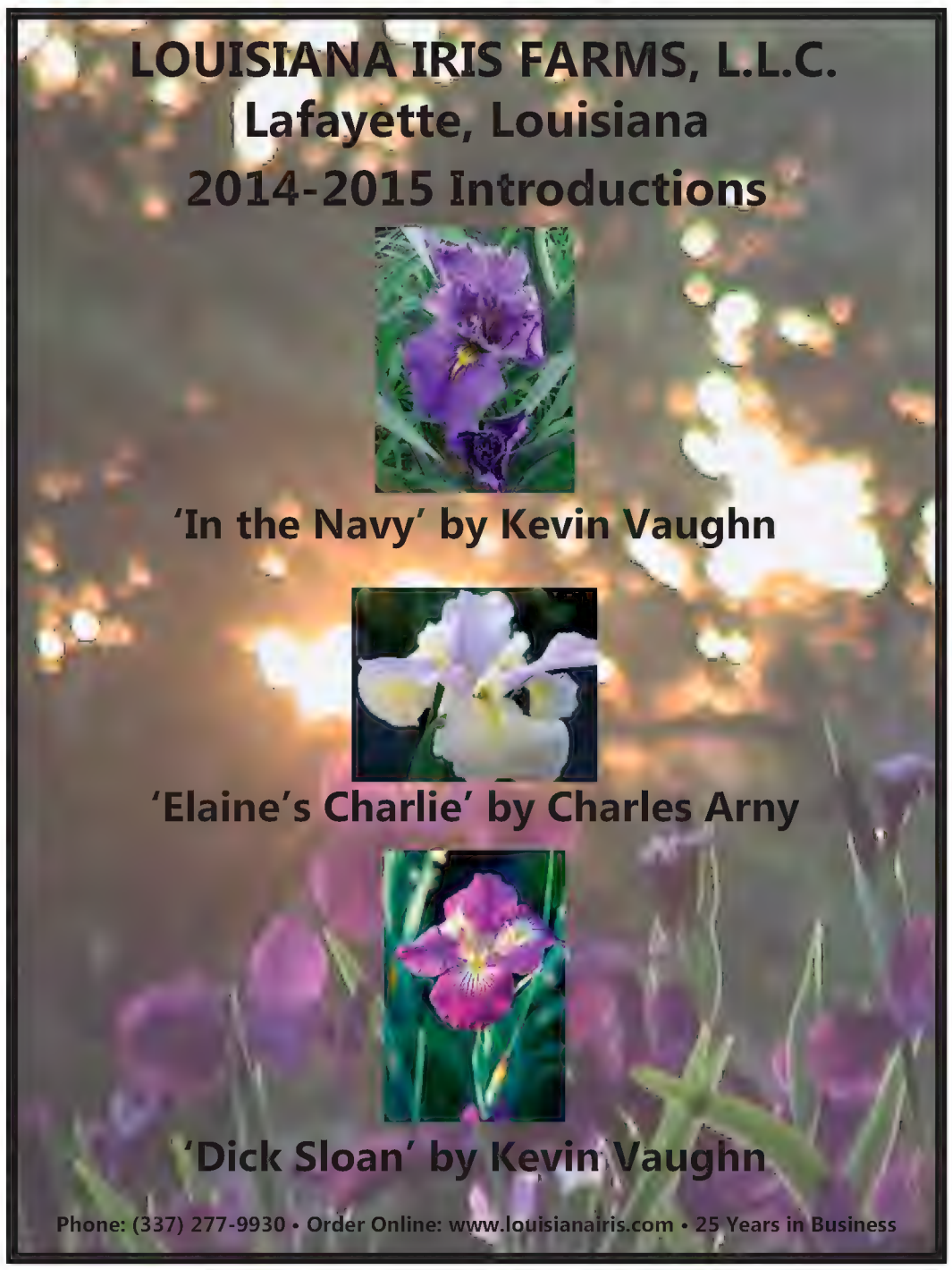
AIS dues went up on October 1st and this includes the dues for AIS Youth membership. There is no special rate for multiple years, but youth dues can be paid for years in advance. Consider giving a gift of AIS Youth membership to a grandchild, niece or nephew, and get them interested in our favorite flower. Benefits of you membership include a youth handbook, two youth newsletters, and contests. Currently, the AIS annual Coloring Contest has been conducted and the judges are examining all the entries. Cash prizes are awarded to each entrant.

CONTESTS

One of the other contests for AIS Youth members is the Ackerman Essay Contest sponsored each year by the AIS Foundation. The winning essays from the junior and senior divisions receive $100 each, and every youth receives a newer iris just for participating. The sponsoring garden for the 2016 contest is Fleur de Lis Gardens, run by Shirley and Riley Probst. Thank you Shirley and Riley for your continued support of AIS youth. The 2016 topic for the essay contest is: "My most interesting or exciting iris experience." Essays should be sent to Carol Warner, 16815 Falls Rd., Upperco, MD 21155, or emailed as an attachment to draycott@qis.net. Limit essays to 2 pages please. Deadline for entering the essay contest is April 1, 2016. Parents may help with grammar, spelling and punctuation, but the essay must be the work of the AIS youth member.

The annual AIS Coloring Contest is being judged as you read this. The winners will be announced in the winter issue of IRISES. Cash prizes are awarded in each age group. The winning picture will be posted on the AIS Youth website in December, www.AISYouth.com.

I hope you will encourage a young person to grow irises and participate in the AIS Youth program. They are our future and need our support. Happy irising!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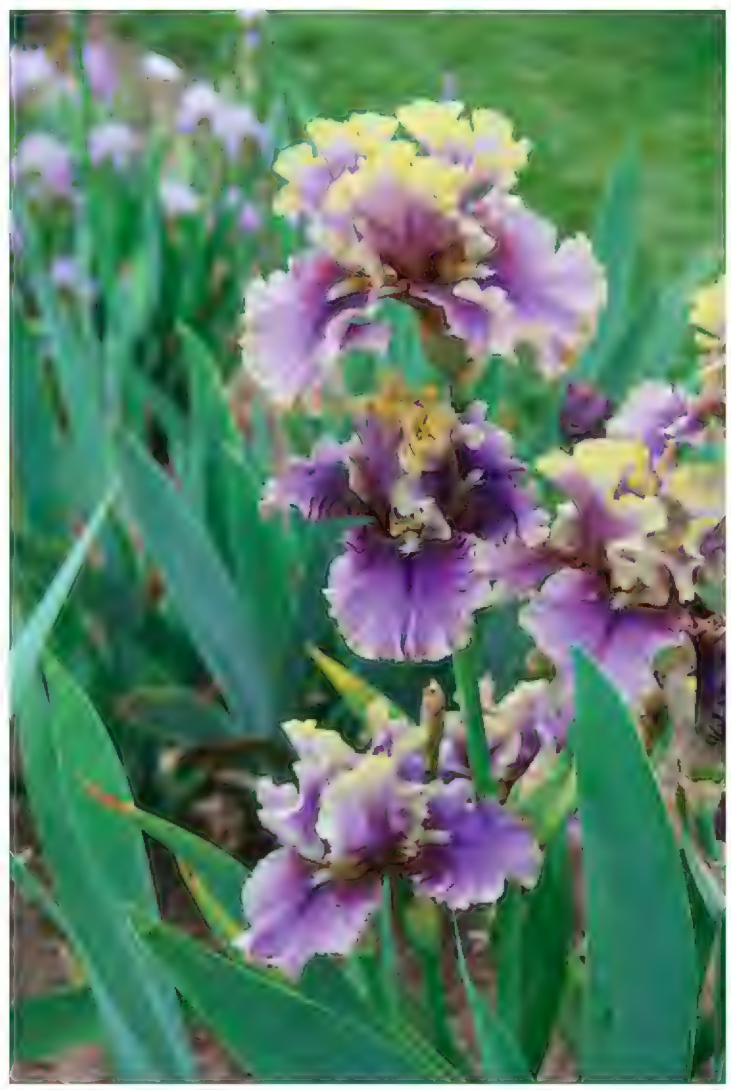
PORTLAND 2015 – ANOTHER VIEW

BY JIM MORRIS, MISSOURI

The visit in May 2015 to the Portland, Oregon area for the AIS Convention was an awesome opportunity to see and evaluate irises of most types widely grown in the genus. The *IRISES* editorial staff received an abundance of written material for the summer issue so that several articles were held over for this fall issue. Our compliments are extended to all the writers and photographers who responded.

We already know that the stars included 'Football Hero' (Lynda Miller 2015, TB), President's Cup winner for the best in-region iris; 'Swans In Flight' (Bob Hollingworth 2006, SIB), Franklin Cook Cup winner for best out-of-region iris; 'Moose Tracks' (Lynda Miller 2015, MTB), Ben R. Hager Median Cup for best median iris; and 'Royston Rubies' (Adam Cordes NR, TB), Lloyd Zurbrigg-Clarence Mahan Seedling Cup for the best iris seedling. All were pictured in the summer issue except the red 'Royston Rubies' which is pictured in this issue along with Doug Kanarowski's first runner-up TB seedling 0409, light pink-tan over orange.



'I'm All Shook Up' (Paul Black 2013, TB)

I would like to preface this additional view of the convention gardens and the irises grown therein with some of the varieties not covered previously. I find that I am often attracted to flowers with color combinations almost impossible to describe but I will attempt to do so here.

My starting flower would be 'I'm All Shook Up' (Paul Black 2013, TB). This has standards and falls of dark violet blended lighter with gold banding and eight buds on each stalk I saw. A very unique and beautiful flower. Next would be 'Center Line' (Thomas Johnson 2011, TB) which has been on my want list. It is a flared pink with bold grape veining on the falls and stunning tangerine orange beards. Another unique iris is 'Go West' (Roger Duncan 2011, TB). It is basically a yellow amoena but with pizazz added by a reddish spot on the falls and clean, bright orange beards. 'Belle Fille' (Marky Smith 2015, TB) is a luminata done up in violet and cream, with all petals edged cream. This consistently presented ten to twelve buds on each stalk. 'Bluebird Of Happiness' (Paul Black 2012, TB) was a bright blue spot in the garden. The standards were mid-blue, falls lighter with orange beards and show stalks.

'Judy's Smile' (Bob Skaggs 2014, TB) is a ruffled pink over deep maroon purple. It has orange beards and good substance. 'Chianti Classic' (Terry Aitken 2010, TB) is a great flower with burgundy standards, garnet red falls and red beards. It performed well in every garden. 'Enough Is Enough' (Paul Black 2013, TB) starts out as sort of a smoky lavender brightening as it matures and the falls become almost white. The big bright orange beards compliment the well-formed flower. 'Don't Stop Believing' (Thomas Johnson 2013, TB) is a drop dead gorgeous pink flower with white on the falls. It has superb form and beards that are part tangerine and violet. Another incredible pink is 'Fine Romance' (Thomas Johnson 2013, TB). You must grow them both.

An older introduction, 'Bolshoi' (Keppel 2009, TB) was holding its own with the newer varieties. It is ruffled and laced in deep orchid with pinker falls and paler centers. It has great form. 'Exit Strategy' (Bruce Filardi 2015, TB) was another lavender-pink with a tangerine beard vying with the lighter pinks. 'Downtown Brown' (Schreiner 2013, TB) was a change of pace in light brown. Another distinctive iris was 'Desloge Flattery' (Clyde Hahn 2006, TB-Novelty). It is a "flattie" in shades of blue and white. After seeing 'Baby I Love You' (Paul Black 2012, TB), I had to buy it. It has blue-white standards and falls that have olive- gold veining on a white center. It is edged white on the wide falls.

'Tijuana Taxi' (Doug Kanarowski 2014, TB), which was first runner-up for the Franklin Cook Cup performed quite well in all the gardens for this California hybridizer. The color combination of light orange over garnet red was stunningly bright in the sunshine. It has a lighter wash in the falls and is complimented by a medium orange beard. 'Simply Coral' (Paul Black 2014, TB) is a mid-coral pink reverse bitone iris that was the brightest flower in the upper Mid-America garden, and the flowers are more petite – and there

Keith Keppel, Joe Ghio, and Barry Blyth, "Three Amigos," AIS Convention 2015 Tall Bearded Iris Panel Discussion.

"Standing Room Only" happy audience enjoys a rare opportunity to hear from three of the most famous iris hybridizers in the world.

are many of them on each stalk. Very impressive. 'Limerance' (Barry Blyth 2009-10, TB) is yet another unusual iris difficult to describe. I see it as light blue-pink over soft lilac, lightening in the center of the falls with bright tangerine beards.

A most impressive intermediate bearded (IB) iris was 'Eyedazzler' (Bruce Filardi 2009). It is a luminata pattern heavily washed red-purple on ivory with red-orange beards. In beardless irises the incredibly vigorous versicolor 'Do The Math' (Jill Copeland 2008, SPEC-X) grew in enormous clumps of light violet over dark violet with almost white style arms. In the Siberians I found 'Judy Judy Judy' (Hollingworth 2010) to be outstanding in medium red-violet standards and white falls with red-violet dotting extending to banded edging. It compared nicely with 'How Audacious' (Hollingworth 2009, SIB) which presented in red-violet and blue-violet shades. 'Sugar Rush' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks 2008, SIB) was great in pink over rosy red with a yellow signal. I wonder how many people saw the stalks of 'Holden Clough' (Donald Patton 1971, SPEC-X) in the Plottner garden? It was growing next to the house somewhat shielded by the refreshment tent. Alledgedly a cross of *I. chrysographes* X *I. pseudacorus*, it is light yellow veined purple giving a brown appearance. Definitely a unique iris. [*Note: Pollen parent now believed to be* I. versacolor.]

As the tall beardeds began to wane, the spurias were just beginning to bloom with much promise. Leading the way was 'Ibex Ibis' (Kasparek 2013) in blue-violet over yellow edged light blue-white. It was followed by 'Stella Irene' (Charles Jenkins 1995), 'Falcon's Crest' (Charles Jenkins 1995), 'Adriatic Memories' (Kevin Vaughn R. 2009), 'Missouri Clouds (Dave Niswonger 1996), and 'Line Dancing' (Charles Jenkins 2007). Louisiana irises also beginning to bloom included 'Seminole Moon' (Harry Wolford 2012) in greenish yellow, the gorgeous white 'Waihi Wedding' (Heather Pryor 1999/2000), and 'Seminole Sunrise' (Harry Wolford 2006) in red with lighter standards and a gold signal.

The AIS convention was quite a blooming success, as was the Beardless mini-convention "Another Day in the Garden" which immediately followed. I hope you enjoyed this viewpoint and those that follow by Stephanie Markham, Ginny Spoon, Chuck Bunnell, Bonnie Nichols and Kate Brewitt.

Photos courtesy the author

'Go West (Roger Duncan 2011, TB)

'Exit Strategy' (Bruce Filardi 2015, TB)

'Tijuana Taxi' (Doug Kanarowski 2014, TB)

Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden

BY STEPHANIE MARKHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

A visit to the Aitkens' garden is always fun, and this time we got plenty of time to enjoy wandering all over the property. Barbara and Terry Aitken have a lovely rolling property located just across the Columbia River from Portland in Vancouver, Washington. They grow all manner of irises, from every class of bearded to Siberians, Louisianas, Japanese, spurias, and a variety of species and species hybrids. They introduce for themselves and for a number of smaller hybridizers like me and my mother, Lynn Markham. Many of us have limited land resources and would have serious problems getting our irises distributed without the help of the Aitkens.

The Aitken Garden

The convention beds at Aitken's were laid out around the house, with separate beds dedicated to the bearded and beardless guests, of which they had more than 950. That's a *lot* of guest irises! The tall bearded (TBs) and border bearded (BBs) were located in beds closest to where we unloaded the busses, so I went through those first. The season had been early, and it was the backside of peak TB bloom, but there was still plenty to see. Barbara and Terry had gone to quite a bit of trouble to make sure the guests were looking their best—groomed and ready for their closeups!

One of the things that caught my eye right away was a TB seedling of Douglas Kanarowski's (0439). It was an *orange* amoena (or near-amoena)! The standards were a creamy white with a sort of orange sorbet color blending in from the midribs; the falls and style arms were a beautiful shade of orange—the color of an orange creamsicle—with bright orange beards. If they introduce this, I *must* have it! I had been noticing Kanarowski irises all through the tours, and those at Aitken's were just as nice here as they were in the other gardens.

I particularly loved 'Why Cows Gossip' (Kanarowski 2015, TB), which is a fabulous shade of iridescent violet with smoky standards, hafts and fall edges and orange beards. Loved the name too, though I'm not sure cows actually gossip about irises, at least not around here. Moo! I also loved 'Sings with Frogs' (Kanarowski 2013, TB), though I know it's probably not to everyone's taste. The standards are butter yellow; the falls are a very interesting blend of orchid-wine over yellow that look dark olive greenish blending to lighter edges, with a bright yellow area around the bright gold beards. The effect is...well...different, and I found it very appealing. It helps that it has a decent stalk and appears to be quite vigorous. Finally, his 'Tijuana Taxi' (Kanarowski, 2014, TB), which was the first runner-up for the Franklin Cook Cup for best out-of-region variety at the convention, practically glowed on what was a rather drizzly day. This iris is *bright*! Standards and style arms are flaming orange; falls have an orange ground with a very wide band of bright wine-red with a lighter wire rim, and the beards are flaming tangerine red. Get out your sunglasses for this one!

There were other great beardeds to see in the guest beds, including a perfectly lovely and very large clump of Lowell Baumunk's soft near-amoena TB 'Vermeer' (2013). This has the softest creamy standards infused with pale yellow at the base of the midribs, over the softest washed pale blue falls that blend to pale yellow hafts around bright yellow-orange beards. The form and presentation of this iris is subtle and beautiful, and to judge by the size of the clump and the way it was blooming, it's also quite vigorous. Paul Black's 'All Ashore' (2013, TB) made an impression here as in other gardens, with its soft greenish-tan standards and blue-violet falls with slate edges, set off with brassy hafts and burnt orange beards. Better yet, it comes on nice, strong stems. I loved 'Linda Nelson' (Schreiner 2014, TB), which has billowy white standards and wide orchid-pink falls with a clear white area around the tangerine red beards. Along similar lines, but much brighter is Marky Smith's 'Afterlife' (2012, TB), which I grow (and love), with ice white standards and bright violet falls with vermillion red beards. Joe Ghio's 'Vow of Silence' (2014, TB) was a quietly lovely confection, in very pale, very soft peachy pink that intensifies on the beautiful "bubble ruffles" that edge the beautifully shaped flower. The beards of this iris are blue at the ends, blending to pink at the heart, completing the picture.

My mother's unique BB 'Devil's Waltz' (Lynn Markham 2010) was still blooming in both the convention and stock beds. This is a nearly impossible color to describe. The closest I can come without going on for two pages is blended smoky blue-plum with a bit more red-plum at the petal edges, a bit of brown overlay at the hafts, an all-over gunmetal sheen, and old gold beards.

Above: 'Bluebird Kisses' left , and 'Solar Energy', (Schafer/Sacks 2014) right

Sometimes it looks more reddish and sometimes more bluish, depending on weather, light, soil, rain, sun and who knows what else. Terry Aitken's BB 'Art Festival' (2012) was in a really big clump in the convention beds blooming its head off. This is a smooth orange dark-top with screaming orange beards, so a big clump—and this one must have had over fifteen bloomstalks—is quite a sight.

There were some miniature tall bearded (MTBs) still blooming at Aitkens, including a VERY interesting seedling from Chuck Bunnell, T16-2. This has caramel-colored standards and cream falls edged in red-violet lines and dots, including irregular splashes of red-violet. The splashing is more subtle than on many broken-color irises, which is, I think, a better plan for such tiny flowers. Too much wild and crazy brokenness can be just unattractive on so small a canvas. In any case, it was quite cute, and I hope he decides to introduce it. Lynda Miller's bright little MTB 'Plum Happiness' (2014) was making an impression here as it did in other gardens. This is a really bright little iris, with a lot of flirty-ruffled little flowers with bright yellow standards, shiny purple falls edged in bright yellow and with a thin white dart running down the falls from the light yellow beards. The Aitkens introduced this iris for Lynda, so there was more of it out in the stock beds. It makes a great landscape plant, to judge from the row growing at Aitkens. Another MTB that makes an impression in a clump is Chuck Bunnell's 'Hoosier Belle' (2012). This little neglecta has light lavender standards over dark purple falls with bright white edges and white whiskers extending down the falls from the white beards. The individual flowers have a great shape, with just a bit of ruffling, and the clump effect is striking from across the yard. Another standout, in the convention beds as well as Aitkens' stock beds, was Ken Fisher's latest MTB 'Chocolate Fountain' (2011). The standards on this one are chocolate brown and the falls are a bright purple with a white dart under the orangey-yellow beards.

Aitkens were also one of the beardless convention gardens, and with the earliness of their season, we got to see that display in all its glory as well. Like everywhere else, Bob Hollingworth's tall white siberian 'Swans in Flight' (2006) was showing off here. Another of Bob's that caught my eye was his 'How Audacious' (2009), which is a very bright thing in shades of red-

Photos courtesy the author

Above: 'All Ashore' TB; left: 'Devil's Waltz' BB, right

and blue-violet with cream dashes over the petals that give a sort of plicata effect, and huge light yellow signals that cover about half of the falls. I also liked his 'Hot Hot Hot' (2015), which was a sort of orchid over purple bitone. A unusual multi-petaled siberian called 'Concord Crush' (Bauer/Coble 2009) looked a bit more like a small rose than like a siberian flower. This one is tidier than some multi-petaled siberians, producing between 6-9 standards and 12-15 falls (and usually no style arms) per flower in a pretty shade of dark blue-violet. Of the Schafer/Sacks siberians at Aitkens, I particularly liked 'Butterscotch Fizz' (2013), a pretty butterscotch-caramel with falls that look sort of light orange in the right light. I also loved their 'Solar Energy' (2014), a yellow bitone with a really bright yellow "spot" on the falls, and 'Bluebird Kisses' (2014), a pretty blue (about the color of our Eastern bluebird) that was showing off in a big, floriferous clump (or was it a flock?).

The earliness of the season benefited us in another way, by giving us the opportunity to look at later-blooming iris types, including Louisianas (LA) and spurias (SPU). I don't grow any spurias, though I'm told that they will grow here in Massachusetts. (I've also heard they don't bloom particularly well for us.) After seeing them growing in Oregon, I may have to try a few, just to see what happens, since I can't extend my bloom season with Japanese Iris (JI), which hate my particular growing conditions (very hot and very dry during the summer), or LAs, which just don't do well this far north. Anyway, I took a walk over to where Aitkens grow their spurias, and saw the first few flowers coming out. Kevin Vaughn's latest spuria introduction, 'Adriatic Memories' (2015), was opening the first flowers on a number of plants in stock area. The standards are sky blue and the falls are butter yellow with ruffled pale blue edges (technically, I think the yellow is considered the signal on these falls; but if so, it takes up most of the fall). Pretty! Kevin's 'Angel's Smile' (2014, SPU) was just opening as well, a handsome, heavily ruffled white with big lemon signals on the falls. Terry Aitken's 'Hot Chili' (2014) was different, a sort of red chili pepper color with a smaller gold signal area. Not to leave out the LAs, there were a few just opening their first flowers, including 'Edna Claunch' (Harry Wolford 2007), which is a VERY ruffled lemon-lime yellow with lime green veining radiating from the center of the flower on both the standards and the falls. If I could grow LAs, I'd get this in a hearTBeat!

A report on the Aitkens gardens is not complete without at least a small comment about Terry's other hybridizing hobby, orchids. I love orchids, and the Aitkens have a greenhouse full of them. There were tiny little spidery ones, big gaudy ones with all manner of spots and splotches, broody dark ones, delicately colored ones in shades of lemon, white and pink, striped ones, polka dotted ones, and a few that looked rather predatory, like they could eat small mammals. However, Barbara and Terry set up coffee and snacks in the greenhouse with the orchids, and nobody went missing (that I'm aware of), so I assume the predatory orchids didn't get any of the convention-goers!

Visitors learn in and enjoy the garden

Mt. Pleasant iris Farm

BY GINNY SPOON, VIRGINIA

The master planting at Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm in Washougal, Washington was beautifully planted and tended by Chad Harris and Dale Grams. I had a marvelous time and was lucky enough to ride the same bus as Bill Maryott and Joe Ghio, who kept us entertained and educated in the gardens. As an AIS Emeritus Judge, I listened attentively as both Bill and Joe explained to some of the attendees those attributes an iris needs to earn votes from AIS judges for the major awards. 'My Lady's Manor', tall bearded (TB) by Phillip Remare (2013) was one that was appraised as meriting awards. It is a lovely silver blue, having sturdy stalks, good branching, correct increase ratio compared to the bloom stalks, and nine buds per stalk.

Some of the iris had already bloomed, and the ones still in bloom were dominated by mid-late to later bloomers with the Siberians (SIB) already at peak. I did not have the time to look at all of the Siberian and beardless plantings, but I could not help but notice the outstanding clump of 'Swans in Flight' (Hollingworth 2006, SIB) that won the Franklin Cook Cup (Best Out-Of-Region Iris).

I have listed, by hybridizer, the bearded irises I felt were outstanding in the master planting. I went down every one of the rows of the bearded iris master planting, studying, taking photos, and making notes of those in bloom I felt were worthy of garden awards. These were all well branched, had sturdy stalks, good bud count, good increase, good color on the blooms, and were distinctive. If any have superior or unique attributes, I will mention them as well.

'My Lady's Manor' (Philip Remare 2013, TB)

Terry Aitken: 'Great Balls Of Fire' (2011, TB) - brilliant orange with red beards, 'Chianti Classic (2010, TB) - great red with orange beards, triple terminal sockets, 'Banded Rose' (2011, Border Bearded, BB) - deep rose -plum dark top that is also a favorite in our garden.

Hugh Stout: 0Z4A - a beautiful luminata space ager with triple sockets on the terminal.

Ginny Spoon: 'Sari's Dance' (2008, Miniature Tall Bearded, MTB) - Came in second place for the favorite median iris, the Ben Hager Cup. I counted over 50 increases with 22 stalks in bloom and 16 in bud, all on a second year clump.

Paul Black: 'Bluebird Of Happiness' (2012, TB) - striking blue with orange beards, one of the loveliest blues in the garden; 'Pretty As A Picture' (2011, TB) - pink with red orange beards, 'Lilac Wings' (2013, MTB) - pretty lilac with orange beards.

John Van Hook: 'Kimberly My Love' (2012, TB) - pink standards and plum falls with orange beards ending in lavender horns with sturdy stalks that are not always seen on space agers.

Chuck Bunnell: 'Hoosier Belle' (2012, MTB) - violet with white beards and white border on falls, about 35 increases with 25 stalks flowering.

Bruce Filardi 'Exit Strategy' (2015, TB) - lilac pink, ruffled and laced with orange beards.

Lesley Painter: 'Planet Hollywood' (2013, TB) - very dark Bishop's purple with yellow ground flecked purple on falls, mustard beards, and triple sockets on terminal.

Brad Kasperek: 'Kudu'z Kudoz' (2009, TB) - pink standards with darker rose pink falls, laced, red orange beards, 12 buds, triple on terminal.

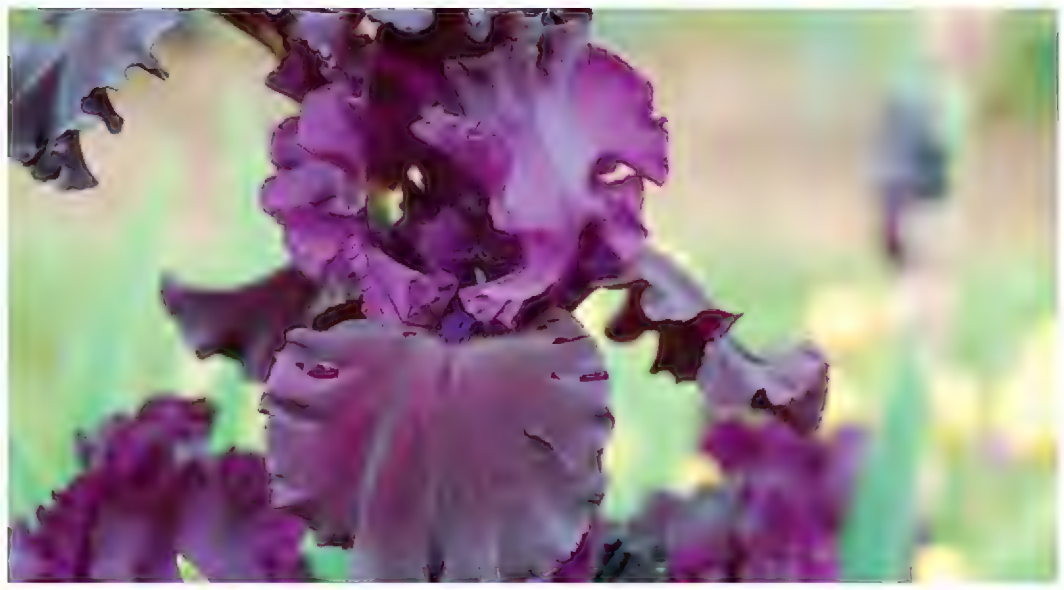
Joe Ghio: 'Double Platinum' (2012, TB) - light pink with peach shoulders. This one is a favorite of ours at home in Virginia. 'Going Big Time' (2014, TB) - pure white standards, dark purple falls with a white zonal and red orange beards, and heavily ruffled with wide falls. I need this one.

Ray Jones: 'Kaw' (2014, TB) - eye-catching colors, bright yellow standards with white falls bordered yellow.

Bryan Spoon 'Alessandra's Gift' (2011, TB) - broken colors of jade green, white and purple.

Lucy Burton: L03-MY-rust: MTB seedling - vigorous grower with about 50 increases and 28 stalks in bloom.

'Bluebird Of Happiness' (Paul Black 2012, TB)



'One More Night' (Roger Duncan 2010, TB)

'Kudu'z Kudoz' (Brad Kasperek 2009, TB)

'Great Balls Of Fire' (Terry Aitken 2011, TB)

'Chianti Classic' (Terry Aitken 2010, TB)

'Center Linet' (Thomas Johnson 2011, TB)

Photos courtesy the author except top left, bottom right, and opposite right, by Jim Morris, and 'My Lady's Manor, by Philip Remare

Chad Harris: 08MTB2: MTB seedling - cherry red with darker veining and mustard beards, 35 stalks in bloom and double the increases, nice dark green foliage. This will make a great introduction and addition to the MTBs.

Don Spoon: 'Marilyn Naylor' (2011, TB) white ground with rose purple dashes and dots on falls with distinctive orange beards. It was almost as happy in Mt Pleasant as in Virginia.
Douglas Kanarowski: 'Tijuana Taxi' (2014, TB) - fantastic colors, orange standards veined falls with orange sunburst, orange beards, ruffled. 'Jelly Bean Parade' (2014, TB) - white standards flushed yellow, purple falls with white zonal, upturned ruffling.

Thomas Johnson: 'Bright Sunshiny Day' (2010, TB) - bright yellow, triple socketed on terminals. This is one of my favorites. 'Common Thread' (2012, TB) - white ground plicata with lavender stitching. 'Center Line' (2011, TB) peach with violet veining on falls, red beards. 'Insaniac' (2012, TB) - cream with burgundy veining on falls, orange beards, triple terminal sockets. 'Fine Romance' (2013, TB) - pink with shrimp beards tipped blue, ruffled and laced, sporting 10 buds.

Gary Slagle: 'Ten Carat Diamond' (2013, TB) - cream with yellow shoulders and under falls, yellow beards, standing tall (about 40")on sturdy stalks.

Keith Keppel: 'Desert Moth' (2012, TB) - tan flushed violet on standards, rust beards. 'Joviality' (2012, TB) - white standards washed yellow, yellow falls with white zonal, just beautiful. 'Strawberry Shake' (2012, TB) - pink with coral pink beards, superbly ruffled and laced, excellent substance with 16 stalks and plenty of increase. This was also the best pink TB in our garden this season.

Jim Hedgecock: 'Asteroid Shower' (2012, TB) - yellow falls with purple veining, orange beards. I love its colors and color pattern.

Lynn Markham: 'Mermaid's Dream' (2009, Border Bearded, BB) - smooth purple.

Roger Duncan: 'One More Night' (2010, TB) - dark smooth black, outstanding display.

Marky Smith: 'Belle Fille' (2015, TB) - purple with yellow beards. I loved this luminata.

Linda Miller: 'Plum Happiness' (2014, MTB) - yellow standards with violet falls edged yellow, yellow beards. 'Moose Tracks' (2015, MTB) dark ebony lines on falls with orange beards. I loved it and it won the Hager Cup for favorite median. It is another must have.

Tom Burseen: 'Loco Coco' (2014, TB) - rusty brown with orange beards.

Schreiner: 'Blueberry Parfait' (2009, TB) - white standards with violet blue falls and white zonal, big flowers with sturdy stalks. 'Care to Dance' (2013, TB) - white standards flushed peach, cherry red falls edged lighter, orange beards. 'Mr. Moonlight' (2012, TB) - lovely wide white, 'Linda Nelson' (2014, TB) - beautiful colors, white standards, rosy pink falls with white zonal and orange beards.

I would like to thank all those involved in the AIS Convention this year for making it a wonderful experience for all.

Mt. Pleasant—in pleasant weather

Determined visitors toured in the rain

Miller's Manor Garden

BY BONNIE NICHOLS, TEXAS

As the tour bus approached the Miller Garden, even in the rain, we could see the irises in full bloom. Medians, tall bearded (TB), spurias, and Siberians were showing their amazing colors. Besides irises, the Millers grow an abundant supply of other perennials including hosta, peonies, and ferns. Annuals included snapdragons and petunias. The roses in Oregon are beyond beautiful.

Living in Texas all my life, I have not had the opportunity to see a "fuchsia greenhouse". While Lynda and Roger do not hybridize fuchsia, they propagate and sell plants from their garden. The Millers' have two sons, one of which lives in Indiana and their other son Nathan grafts conifers at the Miller garden. Nathan's conifer collections include over 400 varieties.

The Millers have lived in Oregon for eight years since their westward journey from Indiana. Lynda tells me that the Oregon property had only a small greenhouse, grape arbor, and boxwoods planted where the conifers now reside.

'Football Hero' (L. Miller 2015, TB) with beautiful show stalks and eight buds drew everyone's attention. With tall stalks, more than seven buds, butter standards, and plum-violet falls, it was no surprise that it received the most votes for the President's Cup (Best In-Region Iris). Lynda's 'Swoosh' (Lynda Miller 2012, TB-Novelty), a pink Space-Ager with long lacy pink horns is definitely on my list to acquire. Adam Cordes 'Royston Rubies (name reserved, but not registered), a tall bearded, drew a crowd. The clump of maroon blooms was undoubtedly named best seedling.

Douglas Kanarowski's 'Spooktacular' (2012, TB) intense menthol violet, and 'Tijuana Taxi' (2014, TB) fiery red-orange standards and falls had excellent increase and show stalks.

Lynda and Roger's garden is a paradise for Miniature Tall Bearded (MTB) lovers. Lynda's MTB 'Plum Happiness' (2014), vibrant color and more than six buds, was in full bloom. 'Sari's Dance' (G. Spoon 2008) and 'Holiday In Mexico' (R. Probst 2012), both MTBs, were in full bloom. 'Sari's Dance' (Award of Merit winner in 2014) has yellow standards and medium lavender-violet ruffled and flared falls. 'Holiday In Mexico', with yellow standards and white falls veined red-violet, grows well in across the country as a 2014.

Be watching for the introduction of seedling 9513B (L. Miller). Orange beards add the finishing touch to the swirl of lavender, peach and cream standards and falls. Seedling 9513D (L. Miller) was on my watch list. Lemon standards and light lavender falls edged light yellow. The yellow beard ended in lavender horns.

'Angler Fish' (Richard Richards 2014, TB) and 'Cornbread N'Honey' (Schreiner 2014, TB) are wish list irises. 'Angler Fish' has consistent upward pointing violet horns on buff/stippled violet falls. 'Cornbread N'Honey' yellow base color with splashes of rosy red was amazing. Another Schreiner iris that was very distinctive was the amoena 'Tidal Raves' (2014, TB). The tall bearded iris sported 40" stalks and over eight buds with white standards and inky blue-violet falls. The offspring of "Blueberry Parfait" definitely draws your attention.

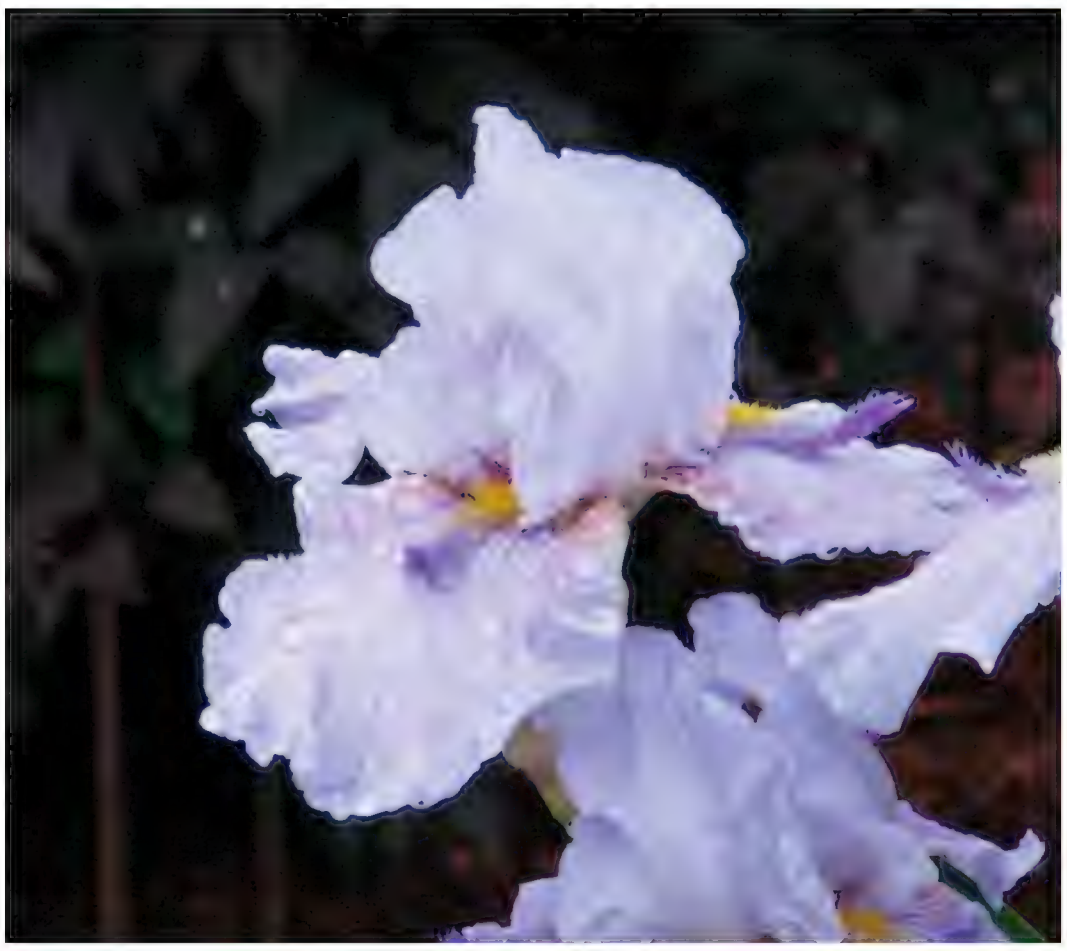
A beautiful tall bearded Schreiner 2014 iris introduction was 'Linda Nelson'. The billowing white standards and wide violet swirl adds zest to the veined falls. The iris is well branched consistently opening two beautiful blooms per stalk. The iris was named for the incoming President of National Garden Clubs that has long promoted gardening and improving the environment.

More novelty irises seen in the Miller garden included Cheryl Deaton's 'I'm So Confused'. Cheryl's 2014 TB introduction in various shades of lavender had deep lavender flounces. Lynda Miller's seedling 3112E was a light shade of pink with lavender-blue beard ending in large flounces. 'Kimberly My Love' (Van Hook 2012, TB) standards are pink with lavender-purple falls and consistent blue horns.

Roger Duncan's 2008 TB introduction 'Arctic Burst' with show stalks is always a garden favorite. It has cold white standards and falls speckled and lined violet one and is always recognizable. A cross of Gold Kist x Puccini produced the striking color and excellent growth habits.

I will end by mentioning the spurias. They had just started showing color. Last, but not least, Lee Walker's 2012 spuria 'Oregon Sunlight', dark yellow standards, ruffled dark yellow-white falls, and green veins, had just opened.

Clockwise from top: 'Swoosh' (L.Miller 2012, TB-Novelty), wisteria in the Miller garden, 'Cornbread N' Honey' (Schreiner 2014, TB), 'I'm So Confused' (Cheryl Deaton 2014 TB-Novelty)



Photos courtesy the author except 'wisteria and Cornbread N' Honey', courtesy Jim Morrison

Mid-America Garden

BY CHUCK BUNNELL, INDIANA (WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM HIS FRIENDS)

Mid-America Garden is located south of Portland, just a few miles from Interstate 5 and Schreiner's Gardens. We got off the bus a short distance down the lane to the new house, hosta business and commercial iris beds.

As per usual when an abundance of iris are in bloom, most time was spent in the guest and seedling beds, which happened to be the first part of the garden. Drawn first to the miniature tall beardeds (MTBs), I was pleased to see they were all generally doing very well. Paul Black's 'Huggable You' (2013, MTB) is an eye catcher just reaching peak bloom. The white standards contrast nicely with the rich violet plicata markings on the falls. My other favorites for color and bloom were 'Pixel Packin' Mama' (Barbara and David Schmieder 2011, MTB), 'Sari's Dance' (Ginny Spoon 2008, MTB), 'Hoosier Belle' (Charles Bunnell 2012, MTB), and 'Ozark Charmer' (Kenneth Fisher 2010, MTB). The best newcomers, in my opinion, were 'Cheerful Lass' (Fisher 2014, MTB), with white standards and very unique yellow gold veined falls with brick veins bleeding down the middle, and 'Moosetracks' (Lynda Miller 2015, MTB) a prodigy of 'Rayos Adentro' (Carol Morgan 2007, MTB), the 2014 Williamson-White Medal winner. 'Moosetracks' caught the eye of others in Portland winning the 2015 Ben R. Hager Median Cup for best median iris in the convention.

Top: Welcome to Mid-America; middle: Jill and Jim Copeland; bottom: the production fields at Mid-America.

As for other medians, standard dwarf beardeds (SDBs) and intermediate beardeds (IBs) were done blooming; but a clump of Black's pink BB, 'Grace and Charm' (2013) was charming indeed with a blush of purple at the midribs and bright orange beard. A pink TB of note was Keith Keppel's 'Strawberry Shake' (2012, TB) The clump had at least five stalks of stunning cool, creamy pink blooms with wide, frilly falls and matching pink beard.

For me, bright yellow or orange are eye-catchers in the garden. Among the yellows were 'Good Morning Sunshine' (Thomas Johnson 2014, TB), 'Cornbread N'Honey' (Schreiner 2014, TB), and 'Bright Sunshiny Day' (T. Johnson 2010, TB). Indeed, a clump of 'Bright Sunshiny Day' with five or six stalks with well placed flowers made a gloomy day brighter. A fiery orange display was provided by 'Great Balls Of Fire' (Terry Aitken 2011, TB); bright orange standards were contrasted by falls with white centers edged in yellow-orange. Sturdy stalks had two or three open blooms. Aitken also had an orange border bearded (BB), 'Pass the Pepper' (2012), with striking orange beards. For something singular, 'Visigoth' (2013, TB), Marky Smith's near black self (as black as any iris I have ever seen) stood out from the surrounding colorful view. Speaking of contrast, 'Rare View' (Robert Van Liere 2013, TB) with pale lavender standards over white falls and wide violet strip around the edges, 'Skirting the Issue' (Schreiner 2014, TB) with pink standards over ruffled red-purple falls edged in pink, and 'Football Hero' (Lynda Miller 2015, TB), provided plenty of color and excitement in the TBs. The Presidents' Cup winner, 'Football Hero' dominated its nearby neighbors with bright yellow standards over wavy, plum-purple falls edged in orchid. The gold beard contrasted nicely with the darker falls.

One of the attractions of this and all of the gardens was great beardless iris bloom. Diversity was seen in spurias such as Brad Kasperek's 'As The Tern Turns' (2013)—white with canary yellow ribs on standards and large yellow spot on the falls. For something

entirely different, a six fall laevigata from Chad Harris, 'Lakeside Ghost' (2012, SPEC) gives a ghostly appearance with pale blue-violet falls speckled darker. The Siberians were the stars of the beardless show, led by 'Paprikash' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks 2012)—pale ground standards with red-violet veins and apricot ground falls heavily speckled with red and a yellow signal lightly speckled and by Franklin Cook Cup winner, 'Swans in Flight' (Robert Hollingworth 2006)—large, pure white flowers above four-foot foliage.

About the landscaping...Mid-America Garden's beautiful craftsman style main home sits majestic atop a rolling hillside surrounded by trees, shrubs, and flowers of all kinds. The walking paths sweep back and forth around and down the gentle hillside offering a visual treat of flowers nestled among the many hostas, conifers, and trees. Atop the crest of the hill overlooking the valley of display iris sits a large gazebo, a lovely spot to stop and rest and observe the surrounding beauty. The view from this location allowed one to see both irises and convention attendees busy as bees marking their favorites in their convention booklets. The greenhouse in the rear of the property was seemingly home to every hosta known to man (a treat on its own). Down the rear hill from the hostas and large barn were the chicken coops full with many varieties of young and old chickens, ducks, and white peacocks which struck our fancy. Beyond the fowl and hosta was a large field of iris in full bloom! A unique feature of the layout is the alphabetical arrangement of their catalogue iris, making it easy to know what to mark in. I must acknowledge the contribution of my family (wife, daughter, and son-in-law) for the description of the layout, which they enjoyed while I enjoyed the guest iris.

Photos courtesy the author, this page, and Jim Morris, opposite

Clockwise from top: gazebo and iris garden, 'Huggable You' (Paul Black 2013 MTB), 'As The Tern Turns' (Brad Kasperek' 2013 SPU)

Kevin Vaughn Garden

BY STEPHANIE MARKHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

It's difficult to believe that Kevin Vaughn upped stakes and moved to Salem, Oregon (from the Mississippi delta) only four years ago, bringing his gardens, or enough of them to continue his incurable hybridizing habit, with him. To judge by the plantings, you'd think he'd been there for at least a decade! Of course, you can grow (and breed) *far* more types of irises in Oregon than you can in Mississippi, so what he brought with him was supplemented "through the kindness of friends and strangers" with all sorts of new (and old) things in classes that would have been problematic in Mississippi. And, of course, he brought seed with him—*lots* of seed. As I can personally attest, the hybridizing habit is one that expands with time and the amount of land available and in Oregon, he now has three acres of arable land, with a nice mix of sun and shade. What more could a dedicated hybridizer (or is it plant fanatic) want?

Kevin was an "optional tour" garden, so he didn't have guest garden beds. Nevertheless, when you arrive at the house, the first thing you see is gardens. He has basically surrounded the house with garden beds—irises of all types and sizes (and I do mean all), as well as daylilies, sedum and hylotelephium, dianthus, penstemon, columbines, campanula, pulmonaria, hosta, daffodils, hellebores, allium, ivies, helenium, sidalcea, sempervivum, and the list goes on. In addition to collecting and growing all of these things, he hybridizes most of them. So we got to see seedlings—lots of seedlings! This, I have to confess, is my favorite thing to do. I love seeing all the newly introduced things in the convention gardens, but exploring seedling beds is like going on a safari, a real adventure!

Top: New Zealanders Keith and Christina Braybrook and Darlene Cook; bottom: photographer Patrick Spence

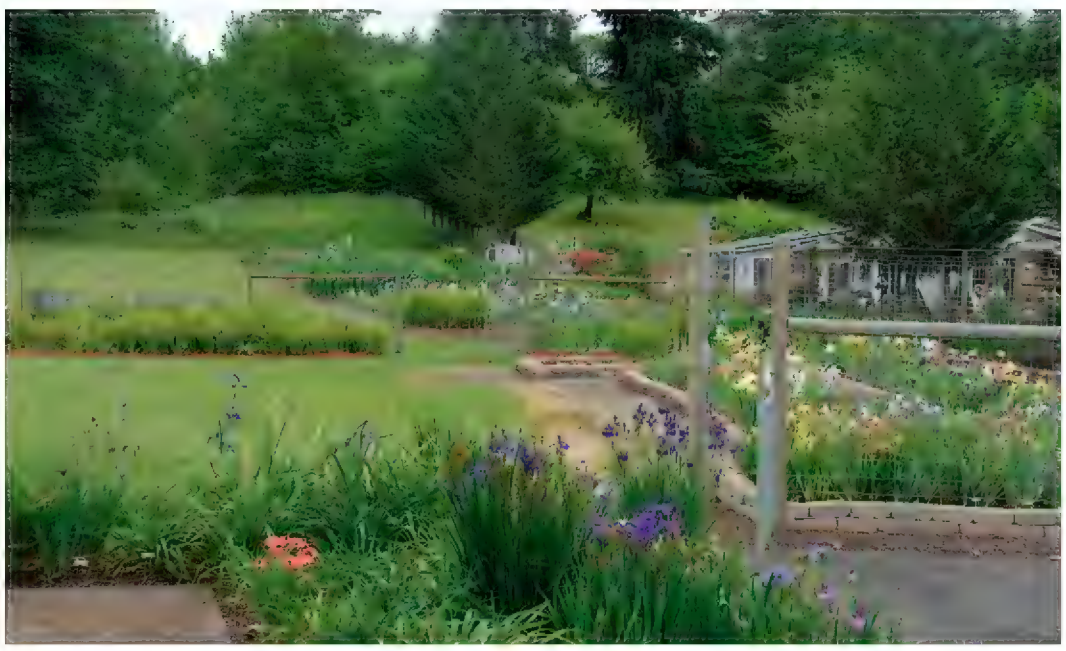
The season in Oregon was running early, which meant that not only did Kevin have a whole bed of really interesting miniature tall bearded (MTB) seedlings in full bloom for me to explore (I breed those myself, so I love to see what other hybridizers are doing in that class), he also had bloom on many other types of irises. There were both new and older siberian varieties growing around the house, plus beardless seedling beds and display gardens containing all manner of things running across the middle of the backside of the property. More growing and seedling beds run up the slope behind the house, and these don't just contain irises, either. I could tell you about the fringed dianthus seedlings that looked like space invaders, or the bluebird-colored penstemons, but I digress...

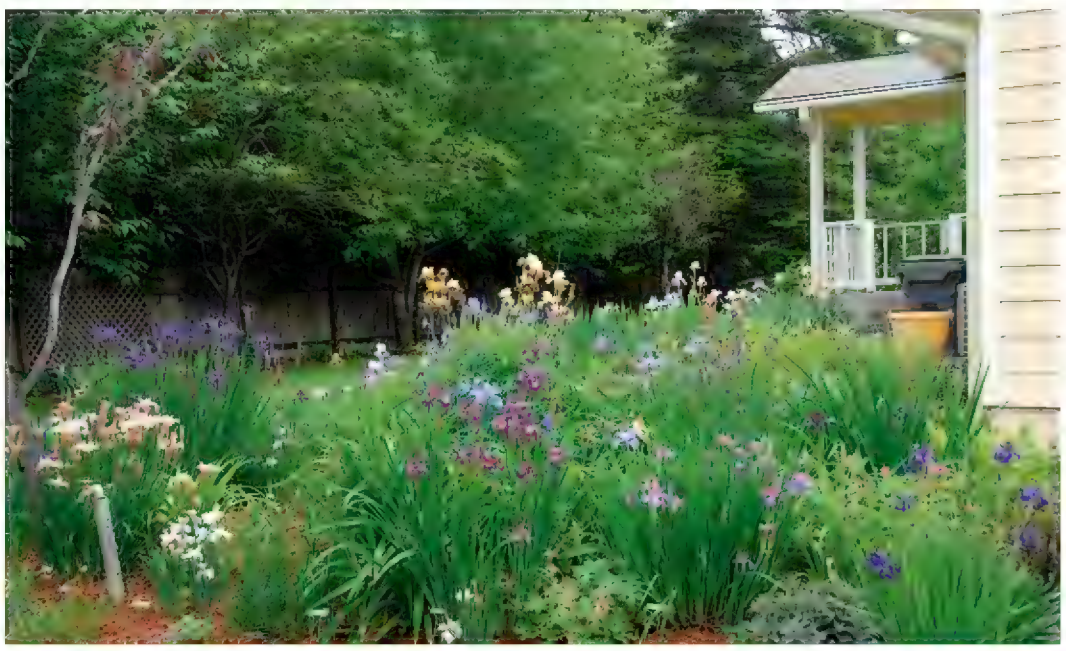
Anyway, back to seedlings. Kevin has bearded seedlings in most classes – from tall bearded (TB) and border bearded (BB) to MTBs – on the sunny side of the property. I took particular notice of the MTBs, including a tiny variegata with the smoothest velvety dark red falls , and an equally tiny amoena with smooth, velvety dark purple falls. It takes some doing to get the veins out of diploid MTBs, especially those with significant amounts of *Iris variegata* heritage, and we need more like this, with dark, smooth, velvety colors. He also had a host of other cute variegata-patterned MTBs in a wide range of color variations ranging from soft and understated to really bright, with fall colors ranging from bright orchid to blackish-maroon and varying amounts of veining on the falls. I was enamored of a couple of his plicata seedlings, some of which were very attractively marked. He also had one petite broken color MTB seedling with pale lemon standards and small, tasteful red splashes on white falls with lemon edges, which I think could be really cute in a clump when it gets going.

Kevin has used his move to Oregon to start breeding Pacific Coast Native (PCN) irises, something we have *no* luck with in the Northeast, and he was blooming some truly lovely PCN seedlings on the shady side of the house. There was a ruffled rose-plum with the blue edging and the huge bright yellow signals on the falls, a soft yellow-cream with a dark purple ring bleeding out from the gold signals into the falls, a mid purple with striking dark blue and white veined areas in the middle of both the falls and the standards, and one that looked for all the world like a blue plicata. Oh, how I wish we could grow PCNs in the frozen Northeast—they are just so yummy!

The Louisiana irises—named varieties and seedlings—were just starting to bloom, and from the amount of foliage, it looked like it was going to be quite the display when it got

Clockwise from top: 'Hail To The Chief' (Hollingworth 2012, SIB); a view of the Vaughn garden; 'Red Velvet Elvis (Kevin Vaughn 1997, LA); a bed of hens and chicks; a view of the back garden





Photos courtesy the author, this page and next, and Jim Morris, opposite

'Breakfast In Bed' (Chuck Bunnell 2014, MTB)

'Black Is Black' (Schreiner 2010, TB)

going (sort of like a hedge of LAs). A couple of them closest to the house were starting to come out during our visit. Among them were Kevin's DeBaillon award winner 'Red Velvet Elvis' (1997, Mary Swords DeBaillon medal in 2005), a beautiful, velvety dark red self. It was clearly a very large and happy plant. We don't grow many LAs in the Northeast, as you might imagine, but we can certainly appreciate the way they grow in the Northwest, which is to say, very well!

The spurias, which were also only just opening their first few flowers, were busily putting up bloomstalks that reached up over my head! Yikes! I wish I had been able to come back in about a week to see what that display looked like in person. Kevin sent me a picture of one of the spuria beds when they did start blooming profusely (about a week after the convention), and it is impressive; but, I suspect it's not quite the same thing as "being there."

One of the newer siberians Kevin had growing near the house was a big clump of 'Something Shocking' (Hollingworth, 2013). This is a round, flared, ruffled, bright red-violet with a huge white signal. A really tall and impressive siberian, also planted near the house, was 'Hail to the Chief' (Hollingworth 2012), which was as tall as any TB, with large, ruffled, mid red-violet flowers that have a blue halo around big cream signals. Another siberian I particularly liked was Jim Copeland's 'Fisherman's Fancy' (2012), which looks like a stained-glass window in shades of lavender, rose and violet, with cool turquoise style arms.

Some of the more interesting TB varieties Kevin is growing (and breeding with) included Paul Black's interesting bicolor 'All Ashore' (2013). This is a tightly ruffled confection with sort of greenish-buff standards with smoky violet running up the midribs, and blue-violet falls that blend to a lighter sort of slate-blue at the margins. Adding to the mystery, the beards are a bronzy orange. 'Kaw' (Ramon Jones, 2014) has bright see-it-from-across-the-yard yellow standards and white falls edged in that same bright yellow, with orangey beards. It also smells lovely! (Gotta love that iris scent on a sunny day.) 'Black Is Black' (Schreiner 2010, TB) is, I think, the blackest iris I've seen so far. Violet 'Dancing Ghost' (T. Johnson 2012, TB) is a really different color—sort of a hazy mauve—with bronzy red beards and strong stems.

I was gratified to see my own 'On the Town' (2007, TB), a very tall yellow-over-plum bicolor TB, blooming heavily in one of Kevin's original garden beds next to the house, in back of a truly beautiful clump of our most recent Dykes Medal winner, Chuck Bunnell's beautiful (and very dependable) MTB, 'Dividing Line' (2005). Kevin had some other really nice MTBs (other than his own seedlings, of course), including the latest from Ken Fisher, a striking, petite chocolate-brown-over-bright-purple bicolor called 'Chocolate Fountain' (2011). Something a bit more subtle, and perhaps one of the closest things we have to orange in the diploid MTBs, is Chuck Bunnell's 'Breakfast In Bed' (2014), a blend in which a reddish-purple wash overlays the yellow ground of the falls to make it look a bit like an orange bitone (in certain lights). Bright yellow rims on the falls and bright gold beards add to the overall "orangy" effect.

Kevin grows not just his own seedlings, but is guesting seedlings of other hybridizers, including a couple of very interesting MTB seedlings from Jean Witt (14-06-3C and 14-11-3C), both of which are subtle variations on the variegata pattern, with old-gold standards and falls washed in light reddish violet with crisply ruffled gold edges. It's tough to get the right sort of ruffles on MTBs—too much ruffling can end up making so small a flower look deformed—but Jean has definitely succeeded in putting just enough crunchy little ruffles on these seedlings to make them "flirty"!

Finally, there was no way to avoid gawking at one of Kevin's other hybridizing passions, sempervivum (aka "hens and chicks"). In fact, there may have been more garden beds devoted to sempervivum seedlings than to irises! Sempervivum translates loosely as "live forever," and they really do put up with just about any conditions, making them perfect plants for a rock garden that you plan to treat with "benign neglect." Kevin has seedlings in shades of purple, bright red, and every variation of green you can imagine, from fluorescent to bluish; with edges or centers in bright red, bright orange, and bright yellow; and in sizes ranging from teeny-tiny to huge. I think I'm going to have to make room on a sunny wall to grow some new semps! Now, if only I can get the "hens and chicks" in my gardens to eat the iris borers.

The Oregon Garden

BY KATE BREWITT, CANADA

The Oregon Garden is an 80-acre botanical garden in Silverton, Oregon. It features more than 20 specialty gardens showcasing the diverse botanical beauty that can be found in the Willamette Valley and throughout the Pacific Northwest. Given the limited time for our visit, we decided to take the complimentary tram to get an overview of the garden. On our first trip we passed a sign that read "Cooley's Iris Walk." A noticeable sound of delight spread through the tram. Don't get me wrong, the rest of the garden was extremely interesting but we were in Oregon for an iris convention...need I say more?

After taking the tram part way round for a second time, we jumped off and made our way back to the Cooley's sign. Here we found a 150-foot strip of garden with various shades of blue, purple, pink, and orange tall bearded (TB) irises all in peak bloom. At the entrance, a large clump of 'Bubbling Surf' (Larry Johnson 2002, TB) showed off its blue blooms—they have a dark blue wash that emanates up the standards and down the falls. The most eye-catching iris was 'Jester's Robe' (Richard Ernst 2011, TB). More than one visitor commented on a striking iridescence on the slightly ruffled red-purple blooms. Another attractive iris was 'Finishing School' (R. Ernst 2005, TB). Its light purple standards contrast nicely against the peach-pink falls which have violet veining radiating from the beard. Larry Johnson's 'Blue Ming' (2006, TB) displayed masses of blooms above blue-green foliage. The flower has pale blue-white standards and blue-violet falls with a white area around a white beard which is tipped pale blue. In contrast to the red-purples and dark violets was a soft pink, 'Song Ocooley
f Hearts' (R. Ernst 2001, TB). The coral-pink beards showed off well against the slightly ruffled, flaring falls. Another pastel-colored iris with beard interest was 'Pumpkin Roll' (L. Johnson 2011, TB). This is a slightly ruffled, light orange iris with fluffy dark orange beards.

When we got back to the hotel, I learned from Georgie and Larry Johnson that the Cooley family had made a donation to the Oregon Garden some years ago. This donation included some irises hybridized by both Rick Ernst and Larry Johnson, Rick's brother-in-law. These were used to create Cooley's Iris Walk; a wonderful tribute to the hybridizing efforts of Rick and Larry. I'm glad we were able to view it during our visit to the Oregon Garden.

Top: Carl Boro courtesy M. Lango; middle: Cooley's Iris Walk sign (originally printed in Tall Talk*) and bottom: 'Jester's Robe' (Richard Ernst 2011, TB), courtesy the author*

2015 AIS AWARDS

The American Iris Society is pleased to announce our 2015 award winners. Congratulations to all!

THE DYKES MEDAL

All iris classes, originated in the US or Canada
(Total votes cast = 445)
56 Gypsy Lord - TB Iris - (Keith Keppel)
Runners Up:
48 Swans In Flight - SIB Iris - (Robert Hollingworth)
29 Absolute Treasure - TB Iris - (Richard Tasco)
29 Montmartre - TB Iris - (Keith Keppel)
27 Bluebeard's Ghost - SDB Iris - (Paul Black)
25 Chief John Jolly - TB Iris - (Tom Parkhill)

THE JOHN C. WISTER MEDAL

Tall Bearded irises
(Total votes cast = 1075)
42 Money In Your Pocket (Paul Black)
37 Snapshot (Thomas Johnson)
33 Temporal Anomaly (Richard Tasco)
Runners Up:
31 Silk Road (Keith Keppel)
29 Blueberry Parfait (Schreiner)
28 Dracula's Kiss (Schreiner)
26 Tobacco Chew (Tom Burseen)
25 Adriatic Waves (Keith Keppel)
25 Baltic Sea (Thomas Johnson)
25 Brazilian Art (Keith Keppel)
25 For Lovers Only (Paul Black)

THE KNOWLTON MEDAL

Border Bearded irises
(Total votes cast = 200)
67 Niche (Joseph Ghio)
Runners Up:
55 Meerkat Manor (Brad Kasperek)
46 Bon Jour (Lowell Baumunk)
32 Snazzy (Keith Keppel)

THE HANS AND JACOB SASS MEDAL

Intermediate Bearded irises
(Total Votes Cast = 268)
100 Man's Best Friend (Paul Black)
Runners Up:
82 Star In The Night (Paul Black)
44 Calligrapher (Marky Smith)
42 Limonada (Keith Keppel)

THE WILLIAMSON-WHITE MEDAL

Miniature Tall Bearded irises
(Total Votes Cast = 232)
67 Hot News (Stephanie Markham)
Runners Up:
60 Maui Mango (J. T. Aitken)
55 Persona (Keith Keppel)
50 Razzleberry Dressing (Stephanie Markham)

THE COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL

Standard Dwarf Bearded irises
(Total votes cast = 277)
23 Maui Sunrise (J. T. Aitken)
23 Zooboomafoo (Paul Black)
Runners Up:
21 Bright Blue Eyes (Michael Sutton)
21 Leopard Print (Thomas Johnson)
21 Spiderman (Donald Spoon)
19 Extraterrestrial (Marky Smith)
19 Riveting (Paul Black)

THE CAPARNE-WELCH MEDAL

Miniature Dwarf Bearded irises
(Total Votes Cast = 131)
45 Keeno (Thomas Johnson)
Runners Up:
38 Gecko Echo (Brad Kasperek)
30 Applet (Marky Smith)
18 Stripling (Marky Smith)

THE CLARENCE G. WHITE MEDAL

Aril irises and arilbred irises with at least 50% aril content
(Total Votes Cast = 107)
39 Aztec Prince (Richard Tasco)
Runners Up:
23 Persian Queen (Robert Annand)
16 Exotic Treasure (Richard Tasco)
11 Jelly Roll Jam (Caroline Chacon)
9 Penninah's Provocation (Pete Mcgrath)
9 Silent Sentry (Richard Tasco)

THE WILLIAM MOHR MEDAL

Arilbred irises with less than 50% but at least 25% aril content
(Total Votes Cast = 94)
72 Prince Of Egypt (Perry Dyer)
Runner Up:
22 Chain Reaction (Richard Tasco)

2015 AIS AWARDS

THE FOUNDERS OF SIGNA MEDAL

Species irises
(Total votes cast = 118)
29 Jin Yu (Jill Copeland)
Runners Up:
27 Ruth Wilder (Walter Hoover By Randell Bowen)
23 Dick Redfield
(Dick Redfield By Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)
23 Tourist (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)
16 Gubijin (Hiroshi Shimizu)

THE RANDOLPH PERRY MEDAL

Inter-species hybrid (SPEC-X) irises
(Total Votes Cast = 181)
77 Do The Math (Jill Copeland)
Runners Up:
36 Plum Duck (Brad Kasperek)
25 Currier Mcewen (Tony Huber)
25 Who's On First (Robert Hollingworth)
18 Everest Blue (O. D. Niswonger)

THE SYDNEY B. MITCHELL MEDAL

Pacific Coast Native irises
(Total votes cast = 42)
19 Bay Street (Joseph Ghio)
Runners Up:
6 Egocentric (Deborah Cole)
5 Pinole Prince (Vernon Wood By Terri Hudson) 4
Eye Catching (Joseph Ghio)
4 Periwinkle Persian (Deborah Cole)
2 Bubble Wrap (Joseph Ghio)
2 Letter Perfect (Lois Belardi)

THE MARY SWORDS DEBAILLON MEDAL

Louisiana irises
(Total Votes Cast = 133)
30 Seminole Sunrise (Harry Wolford)
Runners Up:
27 Renée Fleming (Heather Pryor)
19 Rochester Lilacs (Heather Pryor)
18 Rilla Hickerson
(Farron Campbell By M. & J. Wilhoit)
16 Zydeco (Patrick O'connor)
14 Frederick Douglass (Dorman Haymon)

THE MORGAN-WOOD MEDAL

Siberian irises
(Total votes cast = 217)
54 Humors Of Whiskey (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)
Runners Up:
43 Charming Billy (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)
39 Sugar Rush (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)
35 Berries And Cream (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)
27 Kilauea (Marky Smith)
19 Haleakala (Marky Smith)

THE ERIC NIES MEDAL

Spuria irises
(Total votes cast = 140)
51 Missouri Morning (O. D. Niswonger)
Runners Up:
31 Castor River (O. D. Niswonger)
30 Saint Patrick's Gold (Anna & David Cadd) 28 Honey Mocha Lotta (Lee Walker)

THE PAYNE MEDAL

Japanese irises
(Total votes cast = 104)
37 Sugar Dome (Bob Bauer/John Coble)
Runners Up:
21 Pink Puffer (Jill Copeland)
16 Gingham Geisha (Dennis Hager)
15 Christina's Gown (Jill Copeland)
15 John's Fancy (Jill Copeland)

THE FRED AND BARBARA WALTHER CUP

(Most HM votes in any category)
75 Desert Snow - Ab Iris - (Paul Black)
Runners Up:
70 Paprikash - Sib Iris - (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)
66 Don't Stop Believing - TB Iris - (Thomas Johnson)
58 Lakeside Ghost - Spec Iris - (Chad Harris)
54 Opposites - TB Iris - (Shirley Trio)
53 Cotillion Gown - TB Iris - (Keith Keppel)

2015 AIS Award Winners

TB AWARD OF MERIT

(Total votes cast = 4070)

58 Center Line (Thomas Johnson)
54 Bright Sunshiny Day (Thomas Johnson)
50 Engagement Ring (Joseph Ghio)
47 Winterberry (Donald Spoon)
44 Easter Candy (Keith Keppel)
43 Dragon King (Richard Tasco)
41 Tunnel Vision (Keith Keppel)
40 Strawberry Frosting (Michael Sutton)
38 Jennifer Stout (Ron Mullin)
37 Cheap Frills (Paul Black)
37 Grand Canyon Sunset (Schreiner)
36 Action Packed (Paul Black)
36 Great Balls Of Fire (J. T. Aitken)
36 Hollywood Lights (Thomas Johnson)
36 Rio Rojo (Schreiner)
35 Revision (Keith Keppel)
34 Rim Of Fire (Michael Sutton)
34 Rum And Coke (John Painter)
33 Orangutan Orange (Brad Kasperek)
33 Ringtone (Keith Keppel)

Runners Up:

32 Ghost Writer (Keith Keppel)
32 Lest We Forget (George Sutton)
32 Mango Parfait (Donald Spoon)
31 Catwalk Queen (Thomas Johnson)
31 Edge Of The World (Michael Sutton)
31 Judy Nunn (Frederick Kerr)
31 Main Street (Larry Lauer)
31 My Generation (Larry Lauer)
31 Toronto (Thomas Johnson)
30 Doctor Who (George Sutton)
30 June Krausse (Schreiner)
30 Poodle Parade (Paul Black)
29 Dance Til Dawn (Thomas Johnson)
29 Here Comes The Night (Schreiner)
29 Magnificent Masterpiece (Barbara Nicodemus)
29 Pretty Kitty (Keith Keppel)
28 Beam Me Up Scotty (J. T. Aitken)
28 Be Original (Joseph Ghio)
28 Chianti Classic (J. T. Aitken)
28 Chocolatté (Lesley Painter)
28 Honeykist (Hugh Stout)
28 Nessun Dorma (Frederick Kerr)
28 Penguin Party (Thomas Johnson)
28 Plot Line (Joseph Ghio)
28 Splatter Matters (John Painter)

BB AWARD OF MERIT

(Total votes cast = 324)

39 Whoopsidaisy (Jim Hedgecock)
37 Bohemian Rhapsody (Frederick Kerr)

Runners Up:

35 Banded Rose (J. T. Aitken)
31 Sheer Excitement (Richard Tasco)
29 Fruit Stripe (Michael Sutton)
27 Tina Louise (Bryan Spoon)
26 Always Lovely (Paul Black)

IB AWARD OF MERIT

(Total votes cast = 427)

55 Bahama Blues (Michael Sutton)
50 Intoxicating (Paul Black)

Runners Up:

39 Soleil (Marky Smith)
37 Backlit Beauty (Richard Tasco)
34 Persnickety (Keith Keppel)
31 Orca (Marky Smith)
25 Fall Line (Michael Sutton)
25 Micro Burst (Richard Tasco)

MTB AWARD OF MERIT

(Total votes cast = 349)

58 In My Veins (Charles Bunnell)
52 Florence French (Mona French)

Runners Up:

46 Going Dotty (Stephanie Markham)
38 Dollie And Me (Lynda Miller)
36 Ozark Charmer (Kenneth Fisher)
36 She's A Doll (Lynda Miller)
31 Jiggity-Jig (Stephanie Markham)
31 Orange Starlet (Kenneth Fisher)

SDB AWARD OF MERIT

(Total votes cast = 779)

41 Exotic Eyes (Donald Spoon)
39 Teagan (Donald Spoon)
29 Pulsator (Thomas Johnson)
29 Tanzanite (Marky Smith)
28 Kaching (Paul Black)
28 Pinkster (Michael Sutton)

Runners Up:

27 Dark Matter (Keith Keppel)
27 Jellicle Cat (Paul Black)
25 Black Lightning (Chuck Chapman)
24 Anne Lowe (Donald Spoon)
23 Craisin (Marky Smith)

MDB AWARD OF MERIT
(Total votes cast = 149)
47 Kayla's Song (Donald Spoon)
42 Miniseries (Keith Keppel)
Runners Up:
40 Wee Harry (Barbara & David Schmieder)
20 Bete Noire (Marky Smith)

INTERSPECIES AWARD OF MERIT
(Total votes cast = 156)
47 China In Springtime (O. D. Niswonger)
44 Take No Sato (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)
Runners Up:
42 Shiryukyo (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)
23 Ryugan (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)

CA AWARD OF MERIT
(Total votes cast = 60)
10 Northwest Sunset (Patrick Spence)
10 Pacific Tapestry (J. T. Aitken)
Runners Up:
7 Finger Pointing (Joseph Ghio)
7 Mandalay Bay (Joseph Ghio)
7 Pacific Glaze (J. T. Aitken)
6 Line Drawing (Joseph Ghio)
5 Lewis Lawyer (Adele Lawyer By Terri Hudson)

LA AWARD OF MERIT
(Total votes cast = 276)
41 Our Friend Dick (Ron Killingsworth)
25 Dark Dude (Ron Betzer)
23 Lemon Zest (Kevin Vaughn)
23 Michigan Belle (Jill Copeland)
Runners Up:
21 Seminole Autumn (Harry Wolford)
14 Blue Splatter (Wayland Rudkin)
14 Sarah Faith (M. D. Faith)
13 Acadian Debutante (Hooker Nichols)
13 Sugarplum Treat (Heather Pryor)

SIB AWARD OF MERIT
(Total votes cast = 391)
109 Judy, Judy, Judy (Robert Hollingworth)
40 How Audacious (Robert Hollingworth)
Runners Up:
35 Cape Cod Boys (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)
30 Encore Performance (Robert Hollingworth)
25 Tall Dark And Handsome
(Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)
20 Hot Sketch (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)
19 Jane M. Sadler (Barbara Schuette)

SPU AWARD OF MERIT
(Total votes cast = 197)
42 Missouri Copper Mine (Jesse Emmons)
33 Line Dancing
(B. Charles Jenkins By Comanche Acres)
Runners Up:
21 Some Say It's Pink (Lee Walker)
18 Comanche Moon
(Charles Jenkins By Jim Hedgecock)
17 Red War Clouds (Lee Walker)
16 Walk The Line (Jim Hedgecock)
15 Oregon Cream (Lee Walker)

AR & AB AWARD OF MERIT
(Total votes cast = 161)
47 Byzantine Ruby (Lowell Baumunk)
29 Bhutan (Richard Tasco)
Runners Up:
21 Holy Moley Plum (Caroline Chacon)
21 Navajo Velvet (Sharon Mcallister)
17 Nordic Sky
(Howard Shockey, Deceased, By Lowell Baumunk)
12 Fire In The Hole (Peter Mcgrath)
8 Garnettville (Sharon Mcallister)

AB AWARD OF MERIT
(Total votes cast = 145)
53 Babylon Prince (Lowell Baumunk)
47 Sri Lanka (Thomas Johnson)
Runners Up:
27 Flecks And Specks (Paul Black)
18 Parable (Thomas Johnson)

SPECIES AWARD OF MERIT
(Total votes cast = 96)
32 Born To Be Wild (J. T. Aitken)
26 Doubly Stylish (Barbara & David Schmieder)
Runners Up:
20 Cobblewood Charm (Darrell Probst)
18 Snake Bane (James Waddick)

JI AWARD OF MERIT
(Total votes cast = 151)
20 Cascade Rain (Chad Harris)
19 Oh So Pink (Donald Delmez)
Runners Up:
18 Dirigo Garnet (John White)
16 Kimono Silk (Bob Bauer/John Coble)
15 Christina's Sister (Jill Copeland)
14 Amethyst Actress (Chad Harris)
13 Japanese Plum (Chad Harris)

TB HONORABLE MENTION

(Total votes cast = 6910)

66 Don't Stop Believing (Thomas Johnson)
54 Opposites (Shirley Trio)
53 Cotillion Gown (Keith Keppel)
49 Coal Seams (Schreiner)
46 Fine Romance (Thomas Johnson)
46 My Lady's Manor (Philip W. Remare)
44 Yours Truly (Joseph Ghio)
41 Oil Painting (Joseph Ghio)
40 Care To Dance (Schreiner)
39 Men Are From Mars (Paul Black)
36 Land Down Under (Thomas Johnson)
35 Common Thread (Thomas Johnson)
35 Princess Grace (Paul Black)
34 Afterlife (Marky Smith)
34 After The Rain (Paul Black)
34 Beauty Contest (Paul Black)
34 I'm All Shook Up (Paul Black)
33 Enough Is Enough (Paul Black)
33 Urban Cowgirl (Schreiner)
32 Otherside Of Heaven (Joseph Ghio)
32 Sings With Frogs (Douglas Kanarowski)
31 Edge Of Heaven (Thomas Johnson)
31 Shouting Match (Keith Keppel)
30 Girl Gone Wild (Thomas Johnson)
30 Great Smokey Dawn (Schreiner)
28 Cher And Cher Alike (Paul Black)
28 Full Disclosure (Thomas Johnson)
28 Mr. Moonlight (Schreiner)
28 Visigoth (Marky Smith)
27 Berry Fulfilling (Schreiner)
27 Colorado Expressions (Robert Van Liere)
27 Downtown Brown (Schreiner)
27 Fancy Ideas (Keith Keppel)
27 Fred And Ginger (Paul Black)
26 Autumn Explosion (Richard Tasco)
26 Flaming Lava (J. T. Aitken)
26 Sweeter Than Honey (Robert Van Liere)
25 Alessandra's Gift (Bryan Spoon By Donald Spoon)
25 Golden Gaga (Lesley Painter)
25 In The News (Thomas Johnson)
25 Vintage Port (Marky Smith)
24 Absolute Star (Schreiner)
24 Boot Scoot Boogie (Schreiner)
24 Global Crossing (Robert Van Liere)
24 I Pink I Can (Schreiner)
24 Polite Applause (Joseph Ghio)
24 Slew O' Gold (Schreiner)
24 Soul Mate (Joseph Ghio)
24 Who Needs A Prince (Schreiner)
23 Arts And Crafts (Thomas Johnson)
23 Civility (Joseph Ghio)
23 Core Values (Joseph Ghio)
23 Full Of Grace (Thomas Johnson)
22 Beacon Of Light (Thomas Johnson)
22 Charismatic (George Sutton)
22 Dancing Days (Keith Keppel)
22 Geode (Marky Smith)
22 I I Stutter (Douglas Kanarowski)
22 Illusionist (Joseph Ghio)
22 Peach Butter (Paul Black)
22 Power Lines (Riley Probst)
22 Ten Carat Diamond (Gary D. Slagle Ii)
22 Tex Mex (Tom Burseen)
21 Emblematic (Joseph Ghio)
21 Glimmer Of Hope (Thomas Johnson)
21 Jazzberry (John Painter)
21 Mayan Mysteries (Robert Van Liere)
21 Putting On The Ritz (Jim Hedgecock)
21 Shake It Up (Paul Black)
21 Team Player (Thomas Johnson)
20 All Ashore (Paul Black)
20 Autumn In Missouri (O. D. Niswonger)
20 Fruited Plain (Michael Sutton)
20 Jazz Queen (Barbara Nicodemus)
20 Lady In Purple (Anna & David Cadd)
20 Silken Trim (Schreiner)
20 Spirit Rider (Schreiner)
20 Subtle Beauty (Richard Tasco)
20 Swoosh (Lynda Miller)
20 Tango To The Moonlight (Ben Johnson)
20 Vermeer (Lowell Baumunk)

Runners Up:

19 Bronze Warrior (Frederick Kerr)
19 Butterscotch Peach Parfait (Larry Lauer)
19 Celtic Dancer (Robert Van Liere)
19 Cleared For Takeoff (Schreiner)
19 Dreaming In Color (Lynda Miller)
19 Drunk Skunk (Brad Kasperek)
19 Edgefield Glow (Schreiner)
19 Girly Girl (Schreiner)
19 Gypsy Kisses (Frederick Kerr)
19 Storm Rider (Richard Tasco)
19 Tickle Me Pink (Robert Van Liere)
19 Very Very Good (Paul Black)
19 Whale's Tale (Schreiner)
18 Bashful Princess (Paul Black)
18 Fiddlin' Around (Schreiner)
18 Girl Trouble (Lowell Baumunk)
18 Mango Queen (Frederick Kerr)
18 Muleshoe Money (Tom Burseen)
18 Platinum Jubilee (Joseph Ghio)
18 Satin And Lace (Paul Black)
18 Solar Power (Ross Bevier)

SDB HONORABLE MENTION

(Total votes cast = 1450)

46 Matador's Cape (Paul Black)
31 Lovable Pink (Paul Black)
25 Going In Circles (Paul Black)
24 Beckoning (Thomas Johnson)
22 Bad Boys (Lynda Miller)
22 Ping (Thomas Johnson)
22 Worry Wart (Paul Black)
21 Bennett's Star (J. T. Aitken)
20 Abuzz With Charm (Carol Coleman)
20 Bumpkin (Marky Smith)
20 Celilo (Marky Smith)
20 In Cahoots (Thomas Johnson)
20 Purple Zinger (J. T. Aitken)
19 Bluebeard's Gold (Michael Sutton)
18 Alberta Peach (Donald Spoon)
18 Cinnamon Candy (J. T. Aitken)
18 Cosmonaut (Marky Smith)
18 Quarter Moon (Marky Smith)
18 Ray Jones (Donald Spoon)

Runners Up:
17 Star Of India (Thomas Johnson)
16 Come And Get It (Paul Black)
16 Cookie Monster (Donald Spoon)
15 Green Oasis (Paul Black)
14 Crack Me Up (Paul Black)
14 Love Bites (Hugh Stout)
14 Quench (Hugh Stout)
14 Short Film (Thomas Johnson)
14 Sky Of Blue (Paul Black)
13 Burnished (Jean Morris)
13 Cara (Donald Spoon)
13 Dare (Paul Black)
13 Guacamole (Jayne Ritchie)
13 Lime Pixie (J. T. Aitken)
13 Rain In Spain (Paul Black)
13 Red Velvet Elf (Bruce Filardi)
13 Satin Accent (Keith Keppel)
13 Velvet Elvis (Ginny Spoon)

BB HONORABLE MENTION

(Total votes cast = 499)

46 My Cher Of Happiness (Paul Black)
34 Art Glass (Keith Keppel)
31 Rustler's Rhapsody (Paul Black)
28 Blueberry Treats (Lynda Miller)

Runners Up:
25 Orange Fluorescence (J. T. Aitken)
24 Art Festival (J. T. Aitken)
22 Glitzorama (Paul Black)
22 Wisecrack (Keith Keppel)
21 Dark Wonder (Richard Tasco)

IB HONORABLE MENTION

(Total votes cast = 615)

49 Leave The Light On (Riley Probst)
35 Dog And Pony Show (Paul Black)
31 Code Of Honor (Thomas Johnson)
25 Witty (Paul Black)
24 Deep Burgundy (Michael Sutton)
24 Scrivener (Marky Smith)

Runners Up:
23 Sanskrit (Marky Smith)
20 Birds And Bees (Paul Black)
20 Gold And Rubies (Donald Spoon)
20 Self Indulgence (Paul Black)
19 Chilly Willy (J. T. Aitken)
19 I'm On Fire (Thomas Johnson)
19 What About Me (Thomas Johnson)

MTB HONORABLE MENTION

(Total votes cast = 405)

52 Little White Tiger (Jean Witt)
35 Pixel Packin' Mama (Barbara & David Schmieder)
35 Speckled Spring (Stephanie Markham)

Runners Up:
25 Cotillion Ball (Thomas Johnson)
24 Carla Beth ("Betty Wyss, Deceased, By Kelly Norris")
23 Huggable You (Paul Black)
23 Icing (Stephanie Markham)
23 Lilac Wings (Paul Black)

MDB HONORABLE MENTION

(Total votes cast = 200)

40 Beetlejuice (Paul Black)
25 Rivulet (Keith Keppel)

Runners Up:
18 Black Olive (Paul Black)
18 Tiny Beacon (J. T. Aitken)
16 Lotta Dotta (Donald Spoon)
14 Sapphire Jubilee (Ginny Spoon)
13 Boink (J. T. Aitken)
13 Fancy This (Jayne Ritchie)

AR & AB HONORABLE MENTION

(Total votes cast = 107)

28 Dubai (Thomas Johnson)
26 Eyes On You (Paul Black)

Runners Up:
15 Alakazam (Richard Tasco)
12 Enchanter's Spell (Richard Tasco)
11 Pharaoh's Host (Walter Moores)
8 Undue Influence (Caroline Chacon)
5 Bold Excess (Caroline Chacon)

2015 AIS Award Winners

AB HONORABLE MENTION
(Total votes cast = 90)
75 Desert Snow (Paul Black)
Runners Up:
15 Bewildered Blue Butterfly (Caroline Chacon)

SPECIES HONORABLE MENTION
(Total votes cast = 130)
58 Lakeside Ghost (Chad Harris)
17 Forest Haimati (Anita Moran)
Runners Up:
11 Firefly Shuffle (Karen Perkins)
8 Wild Whispers (Carol Coleman)
7 Crevice Gem (Darrell Probst)
6 Lockport (Bernard Mcsparrin)
5 Cleo Chapel Road (Darrell Probst)

INTERSPECIES HONORABLE MENTION
(Total votes cast = 164)
26 Chocobeards (Lynn Markham)
15 Roy's Baby (J. T. Aitken)
14 Yarai (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)
Runners Up:
12 Roryu (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)
11 Kurokawa-Noh (J. T. Aitken)
9 Takamagahara (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)
8 Into The Galaxy (O. D. Niswonger)
7 Soft Spot (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

CA HONORABLE MENTION
(Total votes cast = 80)
12 Banner For Iona (Joyce Prothero)
10 Saltspring Sunburst (Joyce Prothero)
5 Costanoa (Joseph Ghio)
5 This Is It (Lois Belardi By Joseph Ghio)
Runners Up:
4 Almost Wild (J. T. Aitken)
3 Coin Collector (Joseph Ghio)
3 Fresh Eyes (Joseph Ghio)
3 High Fire Danger (Joseph Ghio)
3 Open Eyes (Joseph Ghio)
3 Point Lobos (Joseph Ghio)
3 Power Center (Joseph Ghio)
3 Saltspring Sprite (Joyce Prothero)
3 Stamp Of Approval (Joseph Ghio)

LA HONORABLE MENTION
(Total votes cast = 282)
20 Seminole Moon (Harry Wolford)
14 Gulf Coast Beaches (Hooker Nichols)
14 Start Of Something Big (Harry Wolford)
13 Earline Sudduth (Harry Wolford)
12 Kakadu Sunset (Heather Pryor)
11 David's Symphony (Joseph Musacchia)
11 Green Eyed Cajun (Joseph Musacchia)
11 Nancy Tichborne (Bernard Pryor)
Runners Up:
10 Lucky Dog (Patrick O'connor)
8 Dick's Legacy (M. D. Faith)
8 Pontchartrain Beach (Patrick O'connor)
7 Aunt Rose (Joseph Musacchia)
7 Holly Joy Carol (Harry Wolford)
6 Bayou Buckskin (Jim Hedgecock)
6 Louis Armstrong (Patrick O'connor)
6 Mister Sandman (Harry Wolford)
6 Paramount Star (Bernard Pryor)
6 Secret Rendezvous (Heather Pryor)

SIB HONORABLE MENTION
(Total votes cast = 492)
70 Paprikash (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)
46 Fisherman's Fancy (James Copeland)
25 Hail To The Chief (Robert Hollingworth)
24 Lemon Mousse (Robert Hollingworth)
22 Sweeter Still (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)
Runners Up:
20 On Mulberry Street (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)
19 Colorflash (Robert Hollingworth)
18 My Girl Emily (Dean Cole)
17 Fancy Me This (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)
16 Honey Chic (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

SPU HONORABLE MENTION
(Total votes cast = 249)
30 Ibex Ibis (Brad Kasperek)
28 Ode To A Toad (Brad Kasperek)
21 Going Wild In Missouri (O. D. Niswonger)
Runners Up:
20 Steely Don (J. T Aitken)
16 Banned In Boston (Kevin Vaughn)
13 Cast Of Green (J. T. Aitken)
10 Oregon Sunlight (Lee Walker)
9 Lemon Tea (Jim Hedgecock)
9 Solar Amethyst (Lee Walker)

JI HONORABLE MENTION

(Total votes cast = 154)
17 Artesian Spring (Chad Harris)
14 Celestial Emperor (Chad Harris)
12 Amethyst's Sister (Chad Harris)
12 Vintner's Pride (Bob Bauer/John Coble)
Runners Up:
11 Alexisaurus (Jill Copeland)
11 Dirigo Editor (John White)
11 Dragon Tapestry (Chad Harris)
10 Rings A Bell (Bob Bauer/John Coble)
7 Silken Charm (Bob Bauer/John Coble)

Randolph Perry Medal Winner
'Do the Math' (Jill Copeland 2007)
Photo courtesy Jim Morris

Morgan-Wood Medal Winner
'Humors of Whisky' (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks 2007)
Photo courtesy Schafer/Sacks

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The Long Road to a New Iris in India: Part 2

BY AARON FLODEN, TENNESSEE AND JAMES WADDICK, MISSOURI

After many delays due to the convoluted system for university-approved foreign travel, Aaron Floden had his ticket in hand, barely twelve hours before departure. After nearly 30 hours of flight time and waiting in airports, he finally met Pascal Bruggeman and David P. in Delhi. They traveled together to Dibrugarh in Assam.

Continuation

Beginning the next morning the team headed east where they had to ferry across the mighty Brahmaputra River then head north and east to Arunachal Pradesh. Their first goal was Mayodia Pass. Due to an early start to the monsoon season the river crossing was already flooded and impassible, but the local authorities were working on a solution to direct the flow of water away from the drivable part of the floodplain. This led to the first of too many wasted afternoons waiting at low elevation where the only plants of real interest were the tropical aroid genera *Typhonium*, *Colocasia*, and *Amorphophallus*, and all this in the rain. The following morning the river was still too high, but the local villagers had erected a wire and bamboo bridge that they could "walk" across and then take a different vehicle up the road to the pass. After a perilous crossing of all the gear, food and supplies for the next four days, they began walking up slope and then more waiting again until the "taxi" arrived. The sky was overcast with a light misty rain beginning once

Mayodia Coffee House by Pete Boardman

again after a sunny start. The vehicle arrived and they quickly gained elevation into decidedly more subtropical elevations with many more temperate plants showing up; numerous aroids such as *Arisaema* and *Remusatia* as well as choice species of *Spiranthes*, *Impatiens*, and more. Rounding a corner they were suddenly stopped due to a large fallen tree that appeared to be, or had been, a white-flowered albizzia. They started walking again while the guides and driver began hacking away at tree removal. The rain began to pour and they waited it out in a small concrete shelter until the vehicle arrived. With the rise in elevation the plants abruptly shifted to more temperate genera with *Berberis*, *Acer*, *Leycesteria,* and other deciduous plants becoming dominant. At this point it was another four kilometer walk, by choice, to the Mayodia Coffee House. The guides drove on and prepared for arrival.

It was here, outside the entryway, that the first iris were encountered. They were obviously cultivated, but sadly, only in leaf with no sign of flowering stems having finished or started. Night fell early, and by 5 p.m., with dinner ready, it was too dark to explore further that evening.

After a long night of pouring rain and howling winds, rain continued into the morning. Half of the day was spent attempting to stay warm and dry, despite being in a building. By afternoon the rain clouds had finally spent themselves and the sun shone—albeit pitifully and briefly. It was just the invitation needed to go outside. They first explored just around the inn where several clumps of the Iris grew upslope and were in full flower, but battered by the rains. At first glance the similarities to I. *tectorum* are apparent, but unlike that species rather open, flat flowers, these falls formed a shield from the monsoon elements like so many other Himalayan genera (*Rheum, Aconitum, Delphinium, Sassurea*, etc.). The leaves were also more erect, like some bearded species, and not as outward-arching. Although not very familiar with *Iris milesii*, having grown it long enough to see it flower before it died, Aaron was certain it was not that species either. With four days

On the road

spent at this locality and being unable to trek to higher locations where it might grow natively, he did manage to photograph these cultivated plants in prime flower.

From there they spent the next three days driving back to Dibrugarh, which required a ferry crossing, lunch break, switching drivers, another ferry crossing, and several more hours driving to Pasighat late into the evening. This stop required an overnight stay and there the party got the bad news that the road to Tuting was still closed. It was only upon starting the drive up the Siang River valley, about 300 meters above its raging waters on a gravel and mud road, that they realized that the 244 kilometer drive to Tuting would require at least two full days, even if the road were passable. This travel time would cut three days off of the planned trek time. By a twist of fate, they were forced to head instead to Yingkiong on the east side of the Siang River where a guide was secured. It turns out that this was the same spot that Peter Boardman began his trek when this iris was first photographed and also the same local guide who led him. Although only about 70 miles in a straight line from Mayodia, it was about 150 miles by car and a full 12 hours drive.

Unfortunately their unplanned arrival led to two wasted days waiting for agreements to be met between the guide and the tribe whose territory they wanted to trek across. Upon agreement with fees paid and it still raining, they started hiking from just east of Yingkiong and spent the day fighting terrestrial leeches and rain while moving up through ruderal farm land. After three days of a net overall gain in elevation they arrived to Camp 4. This was supposed to be the last camp before reaching the subalpine area with conifer and rhododendron scrub (only a single *Abies* species ever appeared). Unfortunately this reached only lower peaks carpeted with the ever present members of the Ericaceae; *Gaultheria, Lyonia,* and *Vaccinium.*

The following day of hiking brought yet more rain and biting midges in dense clouds one could not help but inhale. Hiking in the mud and on steep slopes took far longer than it should have. With only a few hours of light left and more hours needed to reach the goal, the team headed to a suitable camping area. This route led them over a recent landslide in loose talus, as well as newly invigorated rainfall, and they quickly lost their hard-gained elevation. Fate having its way, this last minute diversion led them directly to a small area where a patch of iris grew just above their path. This was presumably the very same patch photographed by Peter Boardman five years earlier. At this point they were just over 3000 meters elevation, while the Mayodia plants were growing at 2300 meters. This area had also suffered from a recent series of landslides and was mostly barren with a few patches of Iris only just beginning to colonize the land.

Mystery Iris just out of reach (Bruggman), left, and in the wild (Floden), right

As darkness approached they headed further down, crossing a small vestigial glacier and another talus slope—there they passed another, larger colony of iris. Ahead, the porters were dropping quickly over a rubble slope, which required being on all fours, down to a cave where they planned to sleep (having left their tent at Camp 4). Since this would require a steep climb back up in the morning, the travellers stayed behind with the two guides and set up camp without the porters. The evening was a battle of biting midges. Overnight it was an incessant heavy rain with morning light revealing a flooded campsite. The drenching continued until noon and then promptly stopped. Finally able to leave the tents, they ate a quick lunch and climbed back up to photograph the iris in this new habitat. Done, they continued back down towards camp and further to investigate some specimens they'd seen the night before. The rain began yet again right after a too brief break in the clouds, and it was decided that the following morning they would head back down the mountain, not knowing what the rains might have done to the only road back.

Mystery Iris awaiting another day (Floden)

After two days of travel they arrived in Dibrugarh and took another day cleaning and packing plants and carefully preparing them for shipment. The morning before the flight they mailed their materials—at some expense—via EMS, Express Mail Service. This express air mail shipping should have arrived in as few as seven days. Instead, Aaron's shipment took nearly two weeks just to enter the Indian postal tracking system. Then it sat for an additional four days in Kolkata, a mere two hour flight from Dibrugarh. It finally left Kolkata on the 16th of June heading for the US—15 days delayed. It arrived in Miami, Florida on the 18th, passed customs (surprisingly, given the condition of the plants), and arrived the next day at his house. Only one plant collection survived this ordeal and it was none of the collections of iris, nor any of Aaron's primary research goal collections of the *Polygonatum* genus. The other shipments fared no better with their lesser distance to cover—all iris collections had rotted in transit. After these chances of delivery to different destinations, statistically unlikely, there was a complete failure at introducing this new species to cultivation. And any attempt at DNA material fared just as badly given the high humidity, heat, and the lack of drying. Samples turned into a fungus laden mess.

Everyone involved with the planning and travel was very disappointed to lose all specimens of this iris as well as most all other living study materials sent to home destinations. A lot of time, money and effort went into this very rugged and dangerous travel with little to show for it other than images and the experience.

All sought a second chance. Pascal Bruggeman recently returned to AP in the fall of 2014 to study fruits and seeds and make further observations on arisaema. He had hopes of finding this same mystery iris on a ridge to the north of the ridge they reached earlier in the spring but, though he found some interesting plants, the iris remained elusive, so even this second chance did not bring the mystery to any conclusion. And yet there is still hope—other explorers have expeditions planned.

When it happens, the acquisition of this iris will still only be a first step to understanding this new species. It must be scientifically described, named, published to confirm its identity. It must also be agreeable to cultivation, propagation and commercial distribution before it gets into our gardens.

This account gives just a hint of the staggering steps and slips that can occur between seeing some new plant in the wild and seeing that same plant in the garden. Many fingers are firmly crossed as they support all of the actions that take an enthusiast from the trance of seeing this iris in a digital snap shot to growing it in gardens. Stay tuned for some really good news.

This account and the exploration wish to thank the AIS Foundation for their support. Thanks also to Aaron, David and Pascal for their efforts.

A final note: Although I have taken some liberties to make this tale more coherent, it was composed by both Aaron (especially as it relates to details of the travels) and me jointly. —Jim Waddick

For the first installment of this article, please see the Summer 2015 IRISES.

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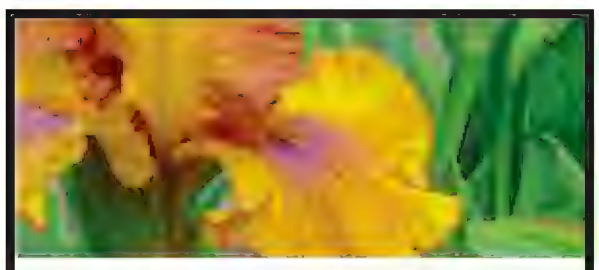

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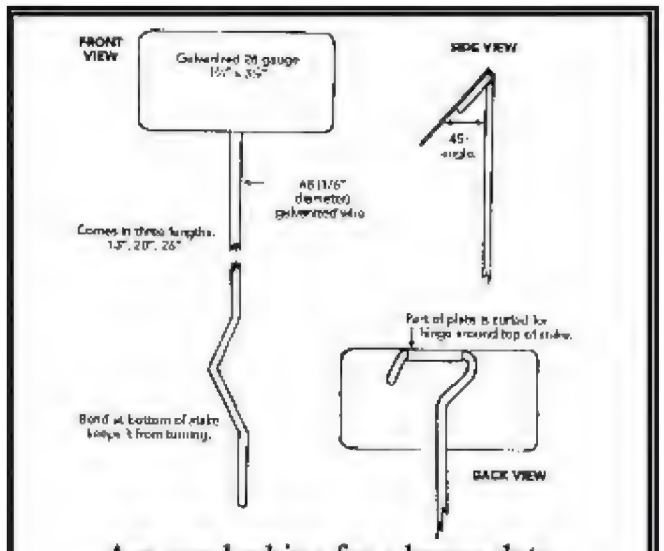

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Ad Submission Requirements

To place an ad, please contact the advertising editor. The advertising editor has a list of specifications for digital submissions. We accept only MS Word, .pdf, .jpg or .indd files. Photos must be sent separately from word or InDesign documents. All .jpg files must be high resolution (minimum 1600x1000). Payment is due when ad copy is submitted. Issues are published the first month of the quarter. The deadlines for ad submissions are: November 15 (Winter issue), February 15 (Spring issue), May 15 (Summer issue) August 15 (Fall issue).

Send digital ad copy to the editor <aiseditor@irises.org>. Send payment (payable to AIS) to Ron Killingsworth, 10329 Caddo Lake Rd., Mooringsport, LA 71060; 318-996-9969; retmiagt@gmail.com

Reminder: Your display ad is due to the editor by November 15 for the Winter issue. Send payment to Ron Killingsworth (address above)

- Email the files to <aiseditor@irises.org> or
- Post files to share using a cloud file transfer (dropbox.com or other) or
- Mail a DVD or flash drive to Ron Killingsworth (address above)

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Found in the back of each Bulletin. Placement is roughly alphabetical. Rate is for 4 issues.
All ads, color or black and white are same cost.

2" ad.....2.25" w x 2" h $60.00
3" ad.....2.25" w x 3" h $80.00

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Color:

1/8 page, interior page.....3.65"w x 2.5"h $50.00
¼ page, interior page.....3.65"w x 4.875"h $100.00
½ page, horizontal, interior page .....7.5"w x 4.875"h $200.00
½ page vertical, interior page.....3.65"w x 9.875"h $200.00
Full page, interior page .....8.5"w x 11"h.....$400.00
4 consecutive issue discount
½ page interior page.....$175.00 each
full page interior .....$350.00 each

Color Cover:

½ page inside front or ½ page inside back cover $300.00
Full page inside front or inside back cover $600.00
½ page outside back cover.....8.5"w x 11"h.....$300.00
3/4 page outside back cover..... 8.5"w x 9"h.....$600.00

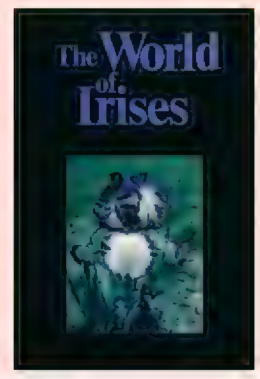
Discount for ad placed in 2 issues within same year

Take out any size and location display advertisement in any issue of IRISES for the normal price as listed and run that same size advertisement in any issue within the same year for ½ the price of the original advertisement. (The second advertisement within the same year is ½ price—it does not have to be the same advertisement.

AIS STOREFRONT Sale Items & Publications

All prices include shipping and handling

The World of Irises Highly recommended! 32 pages of full color. Edited by Warburton and Hamblen. 34 contributors and authors including international authorities. Published in 1978 and most authoritative book on all phases of irises. Scientific and popular. 6" x 9" hard bound cloth cover, 494 pages. $19.00, Canada $25.00, International $35.00.



Handbook for Judges and Show Officials:
Seventh Edition, 2007
Insert (new pages): USA $16.00,Canada $22.00, International $32.00.
Insert w/cover: USA $19.00, Canada $25.00, International $35.00.

Basic Iris Culture Booklet. Great information for new iris growers. Ideal for clubs and shows. New and in color.
Single copy: USA $7.00, Canada $8.00, International $10.00.
Packet of 25: USA $82.00, Canada $105.00, International $119.00

AIS Bulletins: **Back Issues**
Current year and last year: USA $8.00, Canada $11.00, International $15.00.
Older issues (not all available): USA $5.00, Canada $8.00, International $12.00.
Pk of 25: USA $18.00, Canada $34.00, International $45.00.
Pk of 50: USA $27.00, Canada $51.00, International $65.00.

Check Lists: Ten-year compilation for registrations
1939, 1949, 1959, 1969, & 1979 Reprint. Soft Cover.
USA $9.00, Canada $15.00, International $25.00.
1989 & 1999 (Hard Cover):
USA $9.00, Canada $15.00, International $25.00.
2009: 941 pages
Soft Cover Book: USA $25.00, Canada $48.00, International $66.00.
Hard Cover Book: USA $34.00, Canada $57.00, International $75.00.

Registrations and Introductions:
Year 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014: USA $13.00 each, Canada $14.00 each, International $16.00 each.
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2015 AIS Iris Calendars:
USA $4.00, Canada $6.00, International $8.00.
Packet of 10 USA $24.00, Canada $28.00, International $36.00.

2016 AIS Iris Calendars:
USA $7.00, Canada $9.00, International $11.00.
Packet of 10 USA $46.00, Canada $50.00, International $60.00.

Iris Post Cards (16 per pack)
3 packs USA $4.00; Canada $6.00, International $8.00.
10 packs USA $12.00; Canada $16.00, International $25.00.

Send order to:

AIS Storefront
John & Kay Ludi
P.O. Box 956, Sandy, OR 97055
503-826-8808
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Theme #3–BEARDED WONDERS
Theme #4–HAVE NOTS (beardless)
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Pack (50 per pack): USA $5.00, Canada $7.00, International $10.00.
5 Packs: USA $12.00, Canada $15.00, International $18.00.

AIS "Invitation To Join" Flyers:

Order in packets of 25.
First packet of 25 (1 packet per affiliate) Free.
Additional packet of 25: USA $7.00; Canada $10.00; International $12.00). Order from Exhibition Chair (Show Supplies) or AIS Storefront.

Convention Handbook: Guidelines for planning/ hosting a Spring National Convention and Fall Board Meeting. Free

Dream Gardener: Pioneer Nurseryman Bertrand H. Farr by George Edmonds. (Limited Supply)
USA $20.00, Canada $25.00, International $36.00.

Publications now available through the AIS Storefront:

The Louisiana Iris, The Taming of a Native American Wildflower, Second Edition
USA $30.00; Canada $33.00, International $37.00.

Marie Caillet (1915-2010)
A special publication by the Society of Louisiana Iris honoring Marie Caillet.
USA $18.00, Canada and International $21.00.

Median Iris Society 50th Anniversary History Edition of The Medianite
USA $25.00, Canada $28.00, International $30.00.

For additional item descriptions and price updates, check the AIS Website: www.irises.org/Member Services/Storefront

Ordering Information
Shipping and Handling is included in the item price. Prices are in US$.
The AIS can now accept VISA and Mastercard (sorry, no other charge cards) for Storefront orders (minimum order: $10.00). When charging your order, please include card type and number, expiration date, name on card, and phone number. The Storefront ships via media mail where possible. Priority, overnight and UPS shipment charges paid by the customer. Make checks or money orders payable to The American Iris Society.

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Awards: Gerry Snyder, 225 Sky Line Drive, Sedona, AZ 86336 928-282-5867 <geraldcsnyder@gmail.com>
Bulletin Advertising: Ron Killingsworth, 10329 Caddo Lake Rd., Mooringsport, LA 71060, 318-996-9969 <retmiagt@gmail.com>
Calendar: Janet Smith, PO Box 1585, Coarsegold, CA 93614-1585 559-683-0447 <gbyp456@gmail.com>
Convention Liaison: Open
Electronic Services & Website: Bob Seaman, 7051 S. 126th St., Seattle, WA 98178-4337; 206-235-7358 <kcisbob@leonineiris.com>
Exhibitions:
Schedules: Lois Rose, P.O. Box 30 , Partlow , VA 22534; 540-582-5799 <lowy222@aol.com>
Supplies & Show Reports: Susan Boyce, 5123 South 3500 West, Roy, UT 84067; 801-644-7172; <irisgal@hotmail.com>
Foundation Liaison: Gary White; 701 Old Cheney Road, Lincoln, NE, 68512; 402-421-6394; <in2iris@yahoo.com>
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National Collections: Charlie Carver, PO Box 392, Orcas, WA 98280, 360-376-6109 <lefthandhorticulture@gmail.com>,
Display & Test Gardens: George Boyce, 520 Dairy Rd, Palmerton PA 18071, (home) 610-824-8198, (cell) 607-857- 8732, <glenara@aol.com>
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Section and Cooperating Society Liaison: Gary White, 701 Old Cheney Rd., Lincoln, NE 68512 <in2iris@yahoo.com>
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(1st line = Presidents, 2nd line = Memberships)

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<morrisje1@aol.com>
Judy Eckhoff, 7911 S. Yoder Road, Haven, KS 67543; 620-931-5114
<judy67543@gmail.com>

Society for Siberian Irises:
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630-323-5070
Lori E.Lanford, 3053 Willoughby Road, Mason, MI 48854 517-203- 4050
<ssimembership@yahoo.com>

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<jim@comancheacresiris.com>
Nancy Price, 32009 S. Ona Way, Molalla, OR 97038-9244
503-829-2928; <flags@molalla.net>

Society for Japanese Irises:
Patrick Spence, PO Box 1062, Lake Stevens, WA 98258
<patrick@CascadiaIrisGardens.com>
Jody Nolin, 5184 CTY RD 20, Rushsylvania OH 43347 <jody.nolin@gmail.com>

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209-551-6323 <rprobst02@earthlink.net>
Rose Kinnard, 1649 Madison 504, Fredericktown, MO 63645-8303
<RKinnard@minesmo.org> website: www.rebloomingiris.com

Dwarf Iris Society:
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<robertpries@embarqmail.com>
Dave and Deb Miller, 61 Laconwood Drive, Springfield, Illinois, 62712
217-529-8014 <Miller42@aol.com>

Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises:
Bob Sussman, 12142 Alison Drive, Santa Rosa Valley, CA 93012 <matilija@gte.net>
Kathleen Sayce, PO Box 91 Nahcotta WA 98637-0091
<ksayce@willapabay.org>

Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA):
Ken Walkup, 22 Cayuga St., Trumansburg, NY 14886-9184
<krw25@cornell.edu>
Rodney Barton, 3 Wolters Street, Hickory Creek, TX 75065
<rbartontx@yahoo.com>

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS):
Cathy Egerer, PO Box 456, Grand Marais, MI 49839;
(906) 494-2570 <pr@historiciris.org>
Judy Eckhoff, 7911 S. Yoder Road, Haven, KS 67543, 620-931-5114
<judy67543@gmail.com>

Society for Louisiana Irises:
Jim Leonard, PO Box 82367, Lafayette, LA 70598
< jrleonard@sprintmail.com>
Ron Killingsworth, 10329 Caddo Lake Rd., Mooringsport, LA 71060
318-996-9969; <retmiagt@gmail.com>

Novelty Iris Society:
Bonnie J. Nichols, 3365 Northaven Rd., Dallas, TX 75229; (214) 352-2191
<bjnhtn@aol.com>
Kathy Wade, 4304 Vista Ridge Lane, Alvarado, TX 76009;
<nisnewsletter@yahoo.com>

Cooperating Societies
(1st line = Presidents, 2nd line = Memberships)

Aril Society International:
Bob Pries, 107 Brothers Drive, Roxboro, NC 27574, 336-597-8805
<robertpries@embarqmail.com>
Reita Jordan, 3500 Avenida Charada NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107
<sjordan@unm.edu>

Tall Bearded Iris Society:
Hugh Stout, 432 NE 70th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-1210;
(405) 843-7130 <Hugh@stoutgardens.com>
Ramona Howard, P. O. Box 6991, Lubbock, TX 79493
<rhoward3604@sbcglobal.net>

Section Membership Rates (contact information above):
If not noted, contact Section for overseas postage rates. All prices shown in U.S. dollars.

	Single Annual	Single Triennial	Dual Annual	Dual Triennial
Aril Society International	$17.50	$50.50	$21.00 *(family)*	$54.00 *(family)*
Lifetime membership: 150.00				
Dwarf Iris Society	$8.00 *(youth $6.00)*	$21.00 *(youth $12.00)*	$10.00	$24.00
E-membership: (Newsletter only in digital file) 6.00				
Historic Iris Preservation Society	$13.00 *(overseas $20)* *(youth $5.00)*	$33.00 *(overseas $52.00)*	$15.00 *(overseas $22)*	$39.00 *(overseas $58.00)*
E-membership: $10.00 / Lifetime Membership: Single 225.00, Dual 250.00				
Median Iris Society	$12.00 *(overseas $19.50)* *(youth $10.00)*	$30.00 *(overseas $52.50)*	$13.50 *(overseas $21.00)*	$34.50 *(overseas $57.00)*
Novelty Iris Society	$15.00	$40.00	$20.00	$50.00
E-membership: $15.00 / Lifetime Membership: Single 150.00				
Reblooming Iris Society	$10.00	$25.00	$12.00	$30.00
Society for Japanese Iris	$10.00	$25.00	$12.00	$31.00
Society for Louisiana Irises	$13.00 *(overseas $30.00)*	$32.00 *(overseas $82.00)*	$16.00 *(overseas $33.00)*	$44.00 *(overseas $90.00)*
Society for PCNs *Paper copies of Almanac*	$15.00 *(overseas $18.00)*	$40.00 *(overseas $48.00)*	n/a	n/a
Electronic copies of Almanac only	$7.00	$19.00		
Society for Siberian Iris	$10.00	$25.00	$12.00	$30.00
Species Iris Group (SIGNA)*	$12.00 *(overseas $15.00)*	$32.00 *(overseas $40.00)*	$12.00 *(overseas $15.00)*	$32.00 *(overseas $40.00)*
Lifetime membership: $300.00				
Spuria Iris Society	$12.00 *(overseas $15.00)*	$30.00 *(overseas $40.00)*		
E-membership	$6.00	$15.00		
Tall Bearded Iris Society	$10.00 *(overseas $25.00)*	$27.00	$15.00	$41.00
Lifetime membership: 300.00				

BY JIM MORRIS, OBITUARIES EDITOR

"The fear of death follows the fear of life. A man who lives fully is prepared to die at any time." – Anon

David Arthur Cadd (1945-2015)

I believe it could be said fairly that David Cadd (70) lived a full life with a smile on his face. He passed away peacefully September 4, 2015 from multiple organ failure at his home that his grandparents built, and in which he lived for 45 years, at Healdsburg, California in Region 14.

He was born in iris season May 6, 1945 in Santa Rosa, California and graduated from Healdsburg High School in 1964. He then joined the U.S. Navy and had several billets including on the (HLP) Helicopter Landing Pad USS Princeton, where he ran the print shop and edited the *Bullhorn Bulletin*. He served in Vietnam operating out of Da Nang Harbor supporting helicopter operations. He was honorably discharged in 1969 as an E5, second class petty officer.

Back home in Healdsburg he worked at different local print shops until retirement in 2005 because of health problems. He was Post Commander of his American Legion Post 111 and a member for 47 years.

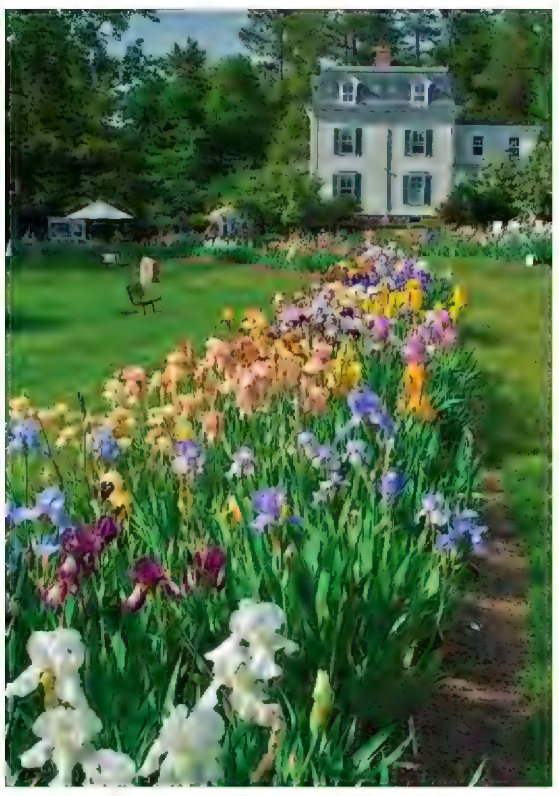
David Cadd was first exposed to the world of irises as a child, when his family would visit "Grandma Bee" in Healdsburg. Helen Beeman and son Faye (Lafayette) were operating a small commercial iris garden first named Beehive Iris Garden and then Beeman's Iris Garden. Long after they were gone David continued growing the irises. His uncle Faye was the family's initial member of both the Ukiah Iris Society and the Santa Rosa Iris Society. Then his mother Peggy and his aunt Mary got involved in SRIS and David joined in 1986. He began to grow more and more irises, attend meetings, and enter iris shows.

In 1990 he married Anna (Aniela) Ludwiczak from Poland, a "transplant" with an MD in Biology and a PhD in Plant Ecology. David, a self-styled dirt farmer, and Anna "fit like two peas in the pod," according to the family. They started Cadd's Beehive Iris Garden, expanded to about 3,000 named iris varieties, and started to hybridize. Their first introductions were in 2000.

From 2000-2012 the Cadds introduced 97 iris varieties, 68 bearded and 29 beardless. There have been nine Awards of Merit; 33 Honorable Mentions; the William Mohr Medal for arilbred 'Hakuna Matata' in 2007; the John C. Wister Medal for tall bearded 'Italian Ice' in 2009; the Eric Nies Medal for spurias 'Speeding Star' in 2011 and 'Golden Ducat' in 2014; and the Larry Gaulter Lifetime Achievement Award from Region 14. At international competitions they have received eight trophies in Florence, Italy; two medals from Moscow, Russia; two trophies from the Middle-European Iris Society in Poland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic; one trophy from the Tecomah Competition in France; and two medals from Munich, Germany.

David Cadd was preceded in death by his mother, Peggy Beeman Cadd, father David Emmett Cadd, brother Timothy Cadd, sister Rosemary Cadd Bellamy, and son Steven Cadd. He is survived by his wife of 25 years Anna, sisters Sharon (Dan) Rotlisberger and Pamela (Wayne) Bell, both of Healdsburg, brother Wayne (Ruthanna) Cadd of Fresno, son Willow Cadd of Ventura, Anna's aunt Bronia Buca of Milpitas, six grandchildren, many aunts and uncles, numerous nieces and nephews, and his military and iris friends all over the world.

ABOUT OUR HOST



The Presby Memorial Iris Gardens is deeply tied to the history of the American Iris Society. The gardens were created in 1927 as a memorial to Montclair resident Frank H. Presby, a founder of the American Iris Society and its first treasurer.

Designed by noted American landscape architect and first American Iris Society president, John Wister, the arching slope of 24 colorful bearded iris beds is referred to as "The Rainbow on the Hill."

The historic house on the property, built in 1867, was the home of Barbara Walther, the volunteer curator of the gardens for 50 years. Mrs. Walther worked tirelessly with AIS members and iris hybridizers to create the largest public iris collection in the country. The historic home houses a museum display and the Bloom Room Gift Shop which sells garden and home accents, often iris themed. The walkway to the house features a circle of stunning heirloom peonies.

Today, the nonprofit public garden is managed by a volunteer board of trustees in collaboration with the County of Essex. Volunteers and staff continue the legacy of preserving historic bearded iris and displaying new iris of note.

Visitors will find 1500 varieties of bearded iris arranged by decade, from 'Florentina' (1500) to the 2014 Dykes medal winner, Dividing Line. We have a sizable collection of medians which circle our creek bed; an entire bed devoted to remontants; and a Dykes Medal Winner bed. We have planted 888 AIS guest cultivars in four bearded beds in the main garden and two beardless along the creek bed.

Our luncheon will be served under a large tent on the great lawn overlooking the gardens. Bearded iris from the Presby Farm will be available for sale. Visitors are invited to view our Presbee Apiary where thousands of Italian and Carniolan honey bees reside. Our PresBee Beekeepers will be available for questions. The property also features a Vegetable Teaching Garden and a Pollinator Plant Trail maintained by Master Gardeners.

We are proud to once again be a host garden for the American Iris Society Convention—1961, 1966, 1970 and now 2016. Welcome back to the gardens!

— Nancy Skjei-Lawes, Board President

SILENT AUCTION...ALIVE AND WELL

The silent auction of the AIS National Convention, is alive and well and headed for the east coast in 2016. After a very successful event in Portland, we are looking forward to springtime 2016 in New Jersey.

Basking in the afterglow of the convention, we are so thankful for the generosity of the contributors of the books, clothing and dishes. The quality of items offered to our bidders made for some spirited bidding.

The silent auction at the AIS National Convention is only about 15 years old. Started by Tom and Rita Gormley, it has continued to grow and expand in scope each year. It's no wonder that the dollar figure of the total winning bids continues to increase, as well. This is very important to AIS.

At the convention, the silent auction makes the most money for the AIS general operating fund. We turn over 100% of the monies from winning bids to AIS. For each of the last four year the silent auction has generated $ 5,000 plus.

A greater variety of iris or garden related items donated by our wonderful members is just one aspect of this successful sale. The variety of your contributed treasures draw more bidders into the room, where they can't help but find something they need or just want. This merchandise is attractively displayed and it helps your contributed tools, antiques, or art draw top dollars, while still being bargains for the successful bidders.

Rhizome offerings donated by our faithful hybridizers generate the most interest. These rhizomes, which can be claimed with beautiful custom made coupons, are shipped at the proper time for your area. So please remember to thank the hybridizers for their contributions. And hybridizers, please remember to send your list of donations to Debbie's email as soon as you decide what to donate for 2016. We love them all!

Pllease keep us in mind as you clean out a closet, drawer or cupboard. Planning ahead can be very helpful in supporting the silent suction held next year in New Jersey. Send a list of your donations to Debbie, then mail or ship them to the address below as soon as you can. Thank you.

Mark the outside of your box:
2016 AIS CONVENTION SILENT AUCTION
Mail your donations to:
Presby Memorial Iris Gardens
C/O Nancy Skjei-Lawes
474 Upper Mountain Avenue
Montclair NJ, 07043

— Nick Stewart (nicolstew7@yahoo.com) and Debbie Strauss (debbie@loveirises.com)

Going East in 2016

The American Iris Society Convention Registration

May 23-28, 2016

Newark Liberty International Airport Marriott Hotel

Newark Liberty International Airport
1 Hotel Road, Newark, NJ, 07114
Phone: 973-623-0006

Contact the Newark Liberty International Airport Marriott Hotel 1-800-MARRIOTT (1.800.627.7468) and ask for the "American Iris Society event" rate of $114. Reservations must be made by Monday, May 2, 2016.

Hotel room reservations are separate from Convention Registrations!

Please complete and mail this form so that it arrives **no later than May 15, 2016.** Registrations will be acknowledged by e-mail. You will receive a packet with additional information, name tags, and event tickets at check-in.

PLEASE PRINT – Fill out one form per person attending.
Name to appear on name badge: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ AIS Region _____

IF POSTMARKED	BEFORE Feb 1, 2016	Feb 1-Apr 30, 2016	AFTER Apr 30, 2016		TOTAL
Full Adult Registration	_____ $299	_____ $310	_____ $325	=	_____
Includes Welcome Reception, Awards Banquet, Garden Tours, Judges Training and Convention Book					
Garden Tours ONLY (May 26, 27, and 28)	_____ $180	_____ $190	_____ $200	=	_____
Full Youth Registration (18 and under)	_____ $150			=	_____
Dinners ONLY (No garden tour, judges training or convention book)					
Welcome Reception (May 25)	_____ $40			=	_____
Awards Banquet (May 28)	_____ $73			=	_____

Please select from the following choices:

Sliced Tenderloin of Beef _____ **Roasted Tuscan Chicken** _____

Optional Tour to The U. S. Independence National Historic Park &
Morris Arboretum _____ $60 (includes bus, admission and lunch) = _____

TOTAL Enclosed = _____

Payment Method: CHECK - Make Payable to **AIS Convention 2016**

Send Registration & Payment to:

Ken Fuchs, 710 N 11th Street, Temple, TX 76501-3016, 254-721-6217, kenfuchs42@hotmail.com

NO CANCELLATIONS AFTER MAY 10, 2016 unless there has been a death in the family.
Cancellations after May 1, 2016 but before May 10, 2016 are at the discretion of the Registrar.

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS:
_____ Gluten Free _____ Lactose Intolerant _____ Diabetic
Other: _____

GEEK DINNER: Registration for the Geek Dinner should be made to Joanne Prass-Jones, 35572 Linda Drive, Fremont, CA 94536 joanne@usjobeses.com.

Visit the AIS Convention website for more information: www.ais2016convention.com.

AIS Conventions

"East We Go In 2016"

2016: May 23-28, Newark, New Jersey

2016 Convention Chair: Paul W. Gossett
1502 S. Boulder #12B, Tulsa, OK 74119
Phone: (918) 853-6204 <pwgossett@juno.com>

2016 Convention Co-Chair: George Boyce
520 Dairy Road, Palmerton, PA 18071-5923
Phone: (610) 824-8198 or (607) 857-8732
<glenara@aol.com>

2016 Convention Headquarters:
Newark Liberty International Airport Marriott
Hotel, 1 Hotel Road, Newark, NJ 07114
Phone: (973) 623-0006
www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/ewrap-newark-liberty-international-airport-marriott/

2017: May 23-27, Des Moines, Iowa

2017 Convention Chair: Kelly Norris
3149 Kentucky Avenue, Bedford, IA 50833
Phone: (515) 777-2356 <kellydn@frontiernet.net>

2017 Convention Co-Chair: Gary White
701 Old Cheney Road, Lincoln, NE 68512
Phone: (402) 421-6394 <in2iris@yahoo.com>

2017 Convention Headquarters:
Des Moines Marriott Hotel
700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309
Phone: (515) 245-5500
www.desmoinesmarriott.com

2018: AIS/SLI Convention April 9-14, New Orleans, LA

2018 AIS Conv. Chair: Paul W. Gossett
1502 S. Boulder #12B, Tulsa, OK 74119
Phone: (918) 853-6204 <pwgossett@juno.com>

SLI 2018 Conv. Co-Chair: Joe Musacchia
509 Linda Ann Avenue, Gray, LA 70359
Phone: (985) 209-2917 <1cajunjoe@att.net>

Future Section Conventions

Society for Louisiana Irises
2016: Shreveport, Louisiana

Spuria Iris Convention
2017: Hosted by the San Fernando Valley Iris Society, Los Angeles, California

Median Iris Society Mini Convention
2017: May 18-20 Lafayette, Indiana

Fall Board Meetings

2015 November 6 - 7 Omaha, Nebraska

Meeting Chair:
Linda Wilkie, 15115 Grant Circle, Omaha, NE 68116
Phone: (402) 493-3808 <lrwilkie@gmail.com>

Meeting Headquarters:
Hyatt Place Omaha Downtown Old Market
540 S. 12th Street, Omaha, NE 68102
Phone: (402) 513-5500
www.omahadowntownoldmarket.place.hyatt.com

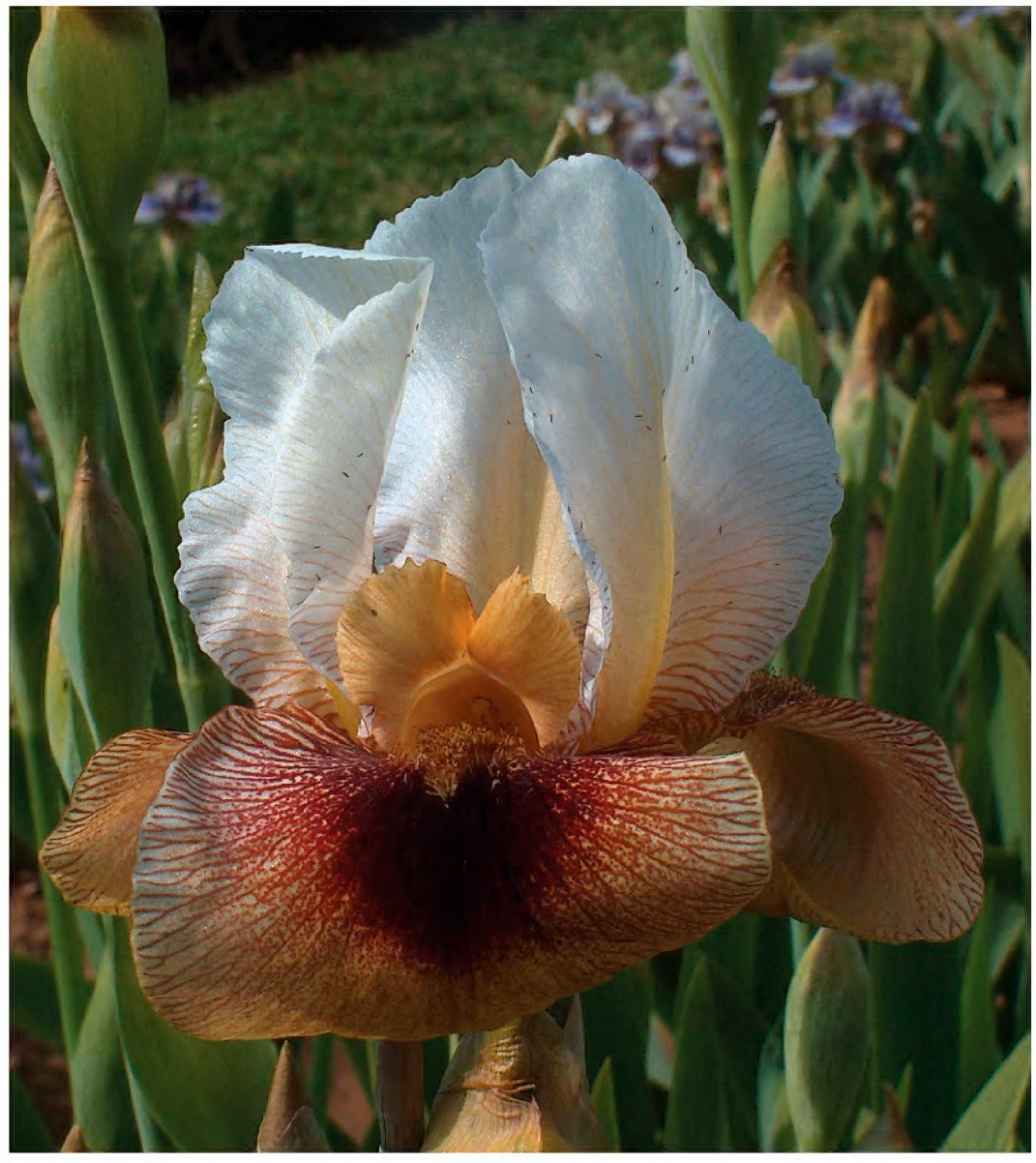
2016 November 4 - 5 Sedona, Arizona

Meeting Chair:
Michelle Snyder, 225 Sky Line Drive, Sedona, AZ 86336
Phone: (928) 282-5867 <aissecretary@irises.org>

Meeting Headquarters:
Hampton Inn Sedona Hotel
1800 W SR Hwy 89A, Sedona, AZ 86336
Phone: (928) 282-4700
http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/arizona/hampton-inn-sedona-FLGSDHX/index.html

2015 AIS Award Winners Image Gallery

Caparne-Welch Medal Winner
'Keeno' (Thomas Johnson 2009)
Photo courtesy J. Graham



Clarence G. White Medal Winner
'Aztec Prince' (Richard Tasco 2009)
Photo courtesy Riley Probst

William Mohr Medal Winner
'Prince of Egypt' (Perry Dyer 2007)
Photo courtesy Dana Brown

Founders of Signa Medal Winner
'Jin Yu' (Jill Copeland 2005)
Photo courtesy Ensata

Sydney B. Mitchell Medal Winner
'Bay Street' (Joseph Ghio 2008)
Photo courtesy Mike Unser

Mary Swords Debaillon Medal Winner
'Seminole Sunrise' (Harry Wolford 2006)
Photo courtesy Jim Morris

Eric Nies Medal Winner
'Missouri Morning' (O. D. Niswonger 2007)
Photo courtesy Jim Morris

Payne Medal Winner
'Sugar Dome' (Bob Bauer/John Coble 2008)
Photo courtesy Ensata

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2015 Fred and Barbara Walther Cup 'Desert Snow' (Paul Black 2013, AB)